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NAKASONE STATEMENT ON ECONOMIC MEASURES

OWO90945 Tokyo KYODO in English 0940 GMT 9 Apr 85

["Full Text of Prime Minister Nakasone's Statement" -- KYODO headline]

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO -- Following is the full text of Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone's statement on external economic measures.

- 1. In the course of the four decades following the war, our economy has developed its strength to such an extent that it now shares as much as one-tenth of the world economy. This has been an achievement derived from the wisdom and efforts of the people, and also the result of receiving greatest benefits from the free trading system based on the IMF and GATT. Today, however, we see that there is an unprecedented rise of protectionism caused by delays in structural adjustment, bringing high levels of unemployment and accompanying large imbalances in the current account, and which threatens to undermine the free trading system. Although the powerful waves of technological innovation are leading the world economy into a new age of development, this rise of protectionism threatens to deprive use of the possibilities which can bring such new development. In order to strengthen the free trading system and to lead the world economy into this new stage of development, Japan will need to play a role both important and commensurate with its status in the world economy.
- 2. Today the government received a report from the advisory committee for external economic issues consisting of informed people in the private sector which contains mediumterm policy recommendations for the further internationalization of the Japanese economy, and has decided upon external economic measures. As for the report of this advisory committee, the government intends to take fullest account of its policy recommendations and seeks to carry out their implementation. Especially, on the improvement of market access, the government accepts the basic approach of "freedom in principle, restrictions as exceptions" and will follow the recommendation that "exceptions" be limited to a necessary minimum. Accordingly, it will prepare an action program as soon as possible and seek its implementation without delay in order to minimize government intervention and to "leave the options as well as the responsibility to the consumers."
- 3. We have seriously conducted continuing consultations with the U.S.A. in the four sectors of telecommunications, electronics, pharmaceuticals and medical equipment, and forest products in accordance with the agreement reached in the Japan-U.S. summit meeting held in January this year.

In the telecommunications sector, the liberalization of telecommunications business has been carried out following the privatization of the Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Public Corporation (NTT) as of April 1, 1985. In addition, there will be simplifications made on a large scale for technical standards of terminal equipment and transparency will be ensured in the creation of standards by allowing members of foreign affiliated firms to participate in the telecommunications council. The fact that this liberalization has been carried out in a most advanced sector which promises to lead our economic progress into the next century is indeed dramatic, and I believe that it will contribute immensely to the expansion of world trade and increased exchange in technology.

In the electronics sector, cabinet decisions have been made approving a bill for the protection of rights in semiconductor chips, and an amendment of the copyright law for the protection of computer program rights so that intellectual property may be appropriately protected. Also, following the mutual elimination of tariffs on semiconductors implemented between Japan and the U.S.A. as of March 1, this year, the government will enter into consultations with the U.S.A. and other industrialized countries with a view to extending the idea of mutually eliminating tariffs in the electronics sector.

As for pharmaceuticals and medical equipments, when they are submitted for the examination for approval, we have decided to accept foreign clinical test data for medical equipments and in vitro diagnostic reagents in case they are immune to ethnic differences. We will continue to seek further simplified and expedited procedures in granting approval and licensing in these areas.

As for forest products, the government will, for the next five years, take special measures for the promotion of the domestic forestry and the wood product industry. While observing the developments of such promotion measures, the government intends to positively consider reduction of tariffs on plywood etc., including those made of softwood and hardwood, with a view to starting implementation approximately from the third year.

Although these consultations covering the above four sectors have been conducted with the U.S.A., the results obtained will not only benefit the U.S.A. but also benefit countries all over the world.

4. Concerning other measures, we will give full consideration to the industrialized countries including the U.S.A. and the developing countries, including the countries in Asia with which Japan has close ties. We have decided in particular to carry out the decisions to lower the tariff of particular items in the early part of this year.

We will also seek the further improvement of standards and certifications and import testing procedures among others and encourage the import of manufactured goods and exchange in the field of investment.

As for the liberation of financial and capital markets and the internationalization of the yen, the government has been making continued efforts in accordance with the agreement reached in the Japan-U.S. yen dollar committee, and will steadily continue such efforts.

As for official development assistance (ODA), we will set new mid-term objectives for the period after 1986, make efforts to increase our ODA and at the same time seek improvement in terms of quality to the fullest extent possible.

5. These measures announced today have been the result of intensive studies made on the basis of discussions in the advisory committee as well as requests by other countries, and were decided after overcoming various domestic difficulties. Needless to say, the government intends to attain economic growth led by the expansion of domestic demand, and seeks a balanced expansion of trade through further improvement of access to our market and vigorous encouragement of imports. We will constantly review domestic institutions including administrative procedures in particular from the view-point of simplicity, transparency, non-discrimination between nationals and non-nationals as well as the opening of markets and make efforts to improve them so they may better befit a country called upon to play a leading role in the free and open international economic system.

As for the difficult domestic problems which may arise in this process, it will be necessary to tackle them vigorously with an awareness that we need to bear responsibilities and costs in order to maintain and strengthen the free trading system which is in fact the very basis of our economy. We will make further efforts to promote the GATT new round from the same considerations.

6. I wish to take this opportunity to make an appeal to the nation. Japan's important and longstanding external economic measures after the war have been aimed at the promotion of exports. However, export promotion is not the only means to enrich the national economy. To have more choice of goods through the encouragement of imports can also be a means to this end.

I ask all of you, therefore, to be willingly receptive toward foreign products for the purpose of enriching your livelihood. And I hope that people in business circles will fully realize the fact that export alone cannot bring about a balanced expansion of trade nor harmonious external economic relations and will endeavor for the increased import of manufactured goods.

Finally, I should like to appeal to the international community. Whether or not we will be able to pass on the worlds present state of progress and prosperity to the next generation depends on our resolve. Japan is firmly determined to play a role and discharge responsibilities befitting its economic strength. It is my ardent hope that the international community will continue to progress along the path of stability and prosperity through free and ever increasing exchange and cooperation, never yielding to the temptation of protectionism.

ADVISORY BODY CALLS FOR MARKET OPENING PLAN

OW090801 Tokyo KYODO in English 0752 GMT 9 Apr 85

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO -- A government advisory committee Tuesday recommended that the government work out an "action program" to open the Japanese market wider to foreign imports and implement six medium-term market-opening measures. In a report submitted to Toshio Komoto, state minister for external economic affairs, the committee, headed by former Foreign Minister Saburo Okita, said the basic policy in the internationalization of the Japanese economy should be "freedom in principle and restrictions as exceptions."

In the action program, the 10-member committee said, the government should announce its readiness to cut import tariffs on industrial products to zero in promoting the proposed new round of multinational trade negotiations. It also called on the government to review import tariffs on agricultural and fishery products, indicating that it favors lower tariffs on boneless chicken. The question of reducing import tariffs on boneless chicken, demanded by countries like Thailand is now a "symbolic" item of trade friction between Japan and developing countries. The government should also review Japan's residual import curbs on a total of 27 agricultural and other products, the committee said. It said the government should draw up by July an outline of the action program, which is to be implemented over a period of up to three years.

After reviewing six market-opening packages introduced by the government since December 1981, the committee said the government should firmly and positively establish a goal for the internationalization of the Japanese economy under its own initiative. In this connection, the report said, the government should enforce six medium-term market-opening measures -- (1) Improvement of foreign access to the Japanese market, (2) Sustained economic growth centered on domestic demand, (3) Expanded investment and industrial cooperation, (4) Promotion of the new round of multinational trade negotiations, (5) Efficient response to demands of developing countries, and (6) Promotion of efforts to avoid trade friction with other countries.

The report said that for sustained economic growth centered on domestic demand, the government should promote deregulation of the activities of private enterprises, promote a five-day working week and shorter working hours and reassess the tax system to encourage sustained domestic demand-oriented economic growth.

Referring to the balance of payments imbalance, the report said Japan's current account surplus with the United States is due to the dollar's excessive strength on exchange markets as a result of high U.S. interest rates and a rapid increase in Japanese exports to the United States due to the strong U.S. economic recovery.

The report said a lowering of the dollar's value was necessary for correction of the current account imbalance. But noting that some of Japan's current account surplus is attributable to structural causes, it also said Japan has a role to play as a capital exporter, providing capital to countries with savings deficiencies. Making Japan more open to the rest of the international community — leading the move toward internationalization — is imperative, the report stressed. It added that it is of the utmost importance that the Japanese people, particularly policymakers and officials in charge of carrying out policies, should be more internationally—minded.

BUSINESSMEN URGE CUTS IN WOOD PRODUCT TARIFFS

OWO80633 Tokyo KYODO in English 0557 GMT 8 Apr 85

[Text] Tokyo, April 8 KYODO -- Business leaders Monday urged Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Moriyoshi Sato to lower import duties on forest products and boneless chicken imported from Asian countries in order to defuse Japan's mounting friction with its trading partners, officials said.

Yoshihiro Inayama, chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), and other leaders of the powerful business organization met Sato and his senior aides to report on their recent goodwill mission to five Southeast Asian countries, including Thailand, Indonesia and the Philippines. Sato said his ministry would take necessary steps "from an overall perspective" with regard to the countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), taking into account the need to strike a balance between maintenance of friendly relations with foreign countries and Japan's agricultural development. But he did not refer to any details of such measures, the officials said. Asian countries asked Japan to cut tariffs on logs, plywood and boneless chicken, among other products, to eliminate the gap with those on imports from North America, they quoted Inayama as saying.

WHITE PAPER CALLS FOR LUMBER INDUSTRY REVIVAL

OWO90425 Tokyo KYODO in English 0305 GMT 9 Apr 85

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO -- A government white paper on forestry Tuesday called for an increased domestic supply to meet most of the country's lumber demand to revive the forestry and lumber industry in the near future. The annual white paper for fiscal 1984 was tabled by Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Moriyoshi Sato at a cabinet meeting.

The report said Japan's forestry has been in recession since 1980, and recent demands by foreign countries for tariff cuts have added to the industry's plight. The report anticipated a "domestic lumber age" in the 21st century, with forestry resources accumulated in postwar forestry activities pulling the industry out of the doldrums. Forestry resources in Japan have accumulated rapidly in recent years, and will come onstream at the outset of the 21st century, the report said. It also called for improved lumber distribution and greater efforts to meet competition from foreign lumber and substitutes. As of the end of March 1981, Japan had 25 million hectares and 2.5 billion cubic meters of forestry resources. Postwar forestation has added some two million hectares to Japan's forests, said the report. Forestry resources are accumulating by 60 million cubic meters annually, enough to build two million wooden houses of 100 square meters each. This means Japan could produce 50 percent of its lumber demand in the 21st century, up from the present 35.4 percent. It described the 15 years to come before the 21st century as a "quickening period" toward the domestic lumber age. The report proposed encouraging demand for lumber, improved supply and processing systems and other efforts.

ABE INTERVIEWED ON TRADE FRICTION WITH U.S.

OW070646 Tokyo TBS Television Network in Japanese 2330 GMT 6 Apr 85

[Interview with Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe by commentator Ryugen Hosokawa; from the "Random Talk on Current Events" program; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Hosokawa] The government is expected to announce measures -- whose general outline has already been reported -- to cope with economic friction. I feel that the United States has begun lending its ears to Japan's assertions. However, the problem is with the U.S. Congress, is it not?

[Abe] Yes, the problem is with the U.S. Congress.

[Hosokawa] I was quite surprised to see unanimity in the Senate. The bill was passed by a House committee as well. The House might not submit the bill at its plenary session if it considers Japan's expected package of countermeasures satisfying. It is hard to predict what action the United States will take, before Japan discloses its countermeasures and the prime minister makes his statement. However, we cannot allow optimism in this connection, can we?

[Abe] No, we cannot allow optimism. The Congress is on its Easter recess. After recess, it will decide on what action it will take in response to Japan's package of economic measures to be announced on 9 April. The bill is already before the Congress. The Congress will decide whether or not to push ahead with the bill.

Here, we have to note a change in the Congress: All of the so-called moderates in the past have now become hard-liners. Under these circumstances, Finance Committee Chairman Danforth is taking a very tough line. He is said to even avoid meeting Japanese people. Thus, they have now become quite emotional on this issue.

Therefore, I perceive a somewhat unusual atmosphere surrounding this issue. Mr Okita [former foreign minister] noted this atmosphere, describing it as similar to one prevailing before a war. There is a very forceful feeling in the United States that it is useless to repeat a request to Japan because it never listens unless it is beaten. Therefore, I think that the issue is not easy to handle.

[Hosokawa] The situation seems to be worse than reported by newspapers, the major source of our information on this issue.

[Abe] Yes, it does. In this context, we have a considerable misunderstanding of them. We are not understanding them in some respects. Therefore, the government should explain the real situation to the people. The people in the United States see their country's deficits increasing from \$34 billion at a rapid pace, while Japan's so-called market-opening measures do not affect its import increase at all. This is why they feel that there is no other way but to take drastic measures. However, it should also be noted that a major reason for the U.S. deficits and Japan's surplus is the unduly high value of the U.S. dollar.

Ignoring this fact, the United States is seeking to make a scapegoat of Japan. Canada, for example, has registered a \$20 billion surplus this fiscal year in trade with the United States. Likewise, many other countries have considerably expanded their exports to the United States, as it now enjoys good business conditions. Therefore, we feel that it is taking aim only at Japan.

[Hosokawa] You mean to say that it is teasing Japan.

[Abe] Yes, in a sense.

[Hosokawa] You are planning to visit the United States on 10 April on your way to Europe for OECD-related business. Of course, you will meet Secretary of State Shultz, will you not?

[Abe] Yes, I will visit there to meet him. At the Reagan-Nakasone summit meeting in Los Angeles early this year, it was agreed that the external trade issue -- that is, the Japan-U.S. trade friction -- would be discussed between Mr Shultz and myself. I will discuss with him the package of measures which Japan is going to announce. I will tell him that Japan is working hard, showing him the package of measures. I will tell him that the United States is also responsible for the friction. The Congress is now in a rage. But I will propose that the two sides make a cool-headed judgment and work hard not to let the single trade friction issue spoil the basic relations between Japan and the United States.

[Hosokawa] It is a good idea.

[Abe] In addition to this economic issue, I would like to discuss developments in Asia, disarmament talks between the United States and the Soviet Union, and other issues as well.

[Hosokawa] I see. Well, now we expect the government to issue the comprehensive package of measures on 9 April. In addition, the prime minister will issue a statement to supplement the package. The prime minister is likely to appear on television, as he said he would, to win the understanding of the Japanese people on the issue. In addition, you plan to visit the United States to have discussions in the wake of the announcement of the package. It will be impossible to settle the issue all at once. However, the package should at least lead the United Staes to a point where it feels there is something to Japan's assertions. We do not want the negotiations to break down.

We do not want a war with the United States. We lost the previous war. [laughter] Only a mad man would be foolish enough to think about having a war -- in the economic field this time -- again. Therefore, the politicians and the general public should join hands to resolve this issue. In fact, people do not know much about the current developments. They do not really understand the cause of the friction, because the issue does not have direct bearing upon their daily livelihood.

Therefore, it is necessary for the government to carry out meticulous and constant publicity activities. Both the politicians and the people should work together to negotiate with the United States. Nevertheless, the Japanese people are now somewhat inattentive.

[Abe] I think you have made a very important point. However, the Japanese people, the Government, and the Diet are generally aware of the issue's importance, I believe. They know that the free trade system is essential to Japan's survival and that we cannot develop Japan in the future by ignoring the basic relations between Japan and the United States. Therefore, we would like to limit the so-called trade war. I think that friction -- if not a trade war -- will continue to exist, in view of the extensiveness of the economic exchanges. However, they...

[Hosokawa, interrupting] The friction should be prevented from becoming explosive.

[Abe] Yes, it should be prevented from becoming explosive. However, there is an uneasy feeling in the U.S. Congress that Japan has thus far done nothing despite Japan's commitment concerning the dispute. The U.S. Congress has recently become very influential. Therefore, Japan should also strive to have the Congress understand its position.

Fortunately the mass media in the United States are relatively cool-headed. The media say that Japan should open its market wider, but they also point out that the huge U.S. trade deficits are blamed on the unduly high value of the U.S. dollar and on U.S. fiscal deficits and high interest rates. They are thus quite cool-headed. If the mass media become explosive, together with the Congress, we will find it impossible to settle the issue.

Therefore, it is now important to explain Japan's position to the Congress as well as to the mass media. I hope that Japan's Diet -- along with the government -- will make strenuous efforts to this end. As I always say, discussions among parliamentarians of the two countries are important.

GOVERNMENT TO DISCUSS RAISING MACHINERY IMPORTS

OWO80725 Tokyo KYODO in English 0713 GMT 8 Apr 85

[Text] Tokyo, April 8 KYODO -- The government's highest policy-making committee on trade will open a subcommittee meeting to discuss ways to increase Japan's machinery imports later this month. The move comes in response to rising overseas calls for Japan to trim its large trade surpluses, officials at the Ministry of International Trade and Industry said Monday.

The Machinery Import Committee, led by Hitachi Chairman Hirokichi Yoshiyama, will hear from officials of machinery makers and trading houses. including some foreign-affiliated firms, the officials said.

It will be the first meeting of the committee, established a year and a half ago as a permanent body under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone.

Japan's imports of machinery products totaled some 12 billion dollars in 1984 or only 8.8 percent of Japan's total imports. However, exports amounted to some 120 billion dollars -- 72 percent of the total.

Japan will also hold a two-day machinery import promotion meeting in Amsterdam, Holland, staring May 21. Officials from European machinery makers, from branch offices of Japanese trading houses and from the governments of the Netherlands and some other nations will be invited.

The meeting, to be sponsored by MITI and the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), will also publicize Japan's specified products trade expansion program (STEP) which promotes sales of foreign products in Japan, the officials said.

It will be the first such meeting to be held overseas by Japan, they added.

GUZHENKO WARNS OF TERRITORIAL ISSUE ATTITUDE

OWO61223 Tokyo KYODO in English 1154 GMT 6 Apr 85

[Text] Tokyo, April 6 KYODO -- Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko will not come to Japan if the visit is seen by the Japanese Government as intended only for talks on a territorial issue between the two countries, a visiting Soviet minister said here Saturday.

Soviet Merchant Marine Minister Timofey Guzhenko made the remarks in an interview with KYODO in which he discussed overall Soviet-Japan relations. Guzhenko said Moscow-Tokyo relations remain "stagnant." But, he said, the March meeting in Moscow between Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone could be a good "stimulant" to both sides in improving their relationship. Guzhenko, who has been head of the Soviet-Japan Society for 12 years, is regarded as one of the officials responsible for his country's relations with Japan. In the March 14 talks, Guzhenko said, Gorbachev reaffirmed the Soviet Union's readiness to develop cooperative relations with Japan on a wide-range of matters.

The two leaders held talks while Nakasone was in Moscow for the funeral of Gorbachev's predecessor, Konstantin Chernenko. Guzhenko was, however, cautious about a Japan visit by Gromyko -- a visit long requested by Japan as a step toward improving Tokyo-Moscow relations. Japan-Soviet relations have been extremely cool since the Soviets invaded Afghanistan in late 1979. The major stumbling block in bilateral relations is the long-pending issue over the four northern islands off Hokkaido, held by the Soviet Union since the end of World War II. Guzhenko said there is no change in the Soviet position that "the so-called northern territorial problem has already been settled." "The matter is exaggerated by the Japanese," he said, and added, "if this is the only matter that will be discussed, a visit by Gromyko will be pointless." There is now and always has been the possibility of Gromyko visiting Japan, he said. But whether his visit will come about depends on what results could be expected, Guzhenko said. He called on Japan to show a positive response to various proposals made by the Soviet Union on such matters as economic and cultural cooperation and security in the Far East and Pacific region.

Asked about the timing of Gromyko's trip to Tokyo, Guzhenko referred to the 40th anniversary this year of the end of World War II as well as the establishment of the United Nations. If Japan and the Soviet Union were able to sign an effective agreement on the strengthening of peace and bilateral cooperation, it could help create a situation conducive to the conclusion of a peace treaty between them, he said. Guzhenko, a Central Committee member of the Soviet Communist Party, is scheduled to meet Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone next week. He will also visit the Tsukub Science Exposition before returning home.

4TH SESSION OF SUPREME PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY OPENS

SKO91023 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1007 GMT 9 Apr 85

[Text] Pyongyang April 9 (KCNA) -- The fourth session of the Seventh Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea opened at the Mansudae Assembly Hall on April 9. The session was attended by deputies to the Supreme People's Assembly.

Attending it as observers were leading functionaries of the party, power bodies, working people's organisations and economic organs, generals of the Korean People's Army, leading men of science, education, culture and art, public health and the press and members of the home-visiting groups of Korean residents in Japan now staying in the homeland. Diplomatic envoys of various countries in Pyongyang were invited there.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, took the platform. Also mounting the platform were the members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The platform party who included members and alternate members of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, secretaries of the WPK Central Committee, members of the Central People's Committee, vice-premiers of the Administration Council and members of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly.

Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly, delivered an opening address.

The session adopted the following agenda:

- 1. On taking a practical measure to promote national rapprochement and trust between the North and the South and ease the tension of the country.
- 2. On the fulfilment of the 1984 state budy et and on the 1985 state budget of the DPRK.

Deputy Ho Tam, member of the Political Bureau, and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' party of Korea and chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, delivered a report on the first agenda item "On taking a practical measure to promote the national rapprochement and trust between the North and the South and ease the tension of the country".

The session considered that our new progressive propositions for discussing the problem of holding talks between our Supreme People's Assembly and the South Korean National Assembly and adopting a joint declaration of non-aggression and other urgent problems of reconciliation, trust and relaxation in face of the strained situation created in our country are a most reasonable and realistic way of dialogue for making a breakthrough in tiding over the national troubles. It stressed the need to bend all efforts to ease the prevailing tensions, guarantee peace in the country and lay foundations for a peaceful reunification.

The session adopted with unanimous approval of the deputies "On taking a practical measure to promote the national reconciliation and trust between the North and the South and ease the tension of the country," a resolution of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. It also adopted "letter to the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea" with the unanimous approval of the deputies.

At the session Deputy Kim Hwan, vice-premier of the Administration Council, delivered a report on the second agenda item "On the fulfilment of the 1984 state budget of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the 1985 state budget."

Then followed a report of Deputy An Sung-hak, chairman of the Budget Deliberation Committee, on the results of the examination by the committee of the fulfillment of the 1984 state budget and the 1985 state budget.

Ho Tam Presents Speech

SK090738 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0308 GMT 9 Apr 85

[Speech by Ho Tam, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the WPK Central Committee and chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, on the first agenda item of the fourth session of the seventh DPRK Supreme People's Assembly "On taking a practical measure to promote national rapprochement and trust between the North and the South and ease the tension in the country" on 9 April at the Mansudae Assembly Hall -- recorded]

[Text] Comrade deputies: Before long, we will observe the 40th anniversary of the fatherland's historic liberation. On that heartwarming day when the country was seething with the joys of liberation, there was no difference in the hearts of our compatriots between North and South. There was only a single hope and desire on the part of the whole nation to jointly enjoy the free and happy new life in the liberated and independent single fatherland. Nevertheless, this cherished desire of the nation turned into a stark reality of division, and the new disaster and agony of the nation which started from that time have not been eliminated, even though 40 years have elapsed since then.

In the viewpoint of the nation, the 40 years since the liberation were years of division and of confrontation. They were 40 years of truly heartbreaking trials for the nation. In the meaningful year marking the 40th anniversary of the fatherland's liberation, presently all Korean people heartwarmingly look back on the joy and gratitute they had 40 years ago, and earnestly hope that the history of the national division will end at an early date and the cause of the fatherland's reunification will be achieved.

Paving the way for true national rebirth and giving a new hope to all compatriots for reunification by responding to such a cherished desire are an important mission of all politicians of the North and the South who will usher in the 40th anniversary of the fatherland's liberation.

In the light of this national mission, I acknowledged that it is very significant and timely that this time the SPA has presented the urgent internal issue of our nation as an important agenda item and will discuss it. Thus, I will now make a report on the first agenda item "On taking a practical measure to promote national rapprochement and trust between the North and the South and ease the tension in the country."

Comrade deputies: As everyone knows, the joint meeting of the DPRK Central People's Committee and the SPA Standing Committee in January of last year put forward a new proposal at the direct proposal of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song to hold tripartite talks to be participated in by us, the United States, and South Korea in order to discuss the prevailing urgent situation, to ease tensions on the Korean peninsula, to eliminate the danger of war, and to provide a condition and preliminary step to the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

The third session of the Seventh Supreme People's Assembly, which was convened right after this, confirmed the justness of this proposal and fully supported and endorsed the measure taken by the joint meeting.

Our proposal for tripartite talks is a most fair and aboveboard one to ease the acute state of confrontation which has continued for some 30 years since the armistice in our country, and to defend peace in Korea, Asia, and the world. It is also an epochal proposal for national salvation, a decisive occasion for the country's independent and peaceful reunification. [applause]

All the developments that have occurred over the past 1 year since we put forward the proposal for tripartite talks have clearly proven the justness of the proposal for tripartite talks. Because of its justness, the proposal for tripartite talks not only has won active support from all Korean people in the North and the South and overseas compatriots, but has also aroused great sympathy among the broad people of the world.

Leaders of not only socialist countries but also many nonaligned countries and the Third World countries, and their national assemblies and governments have officially expressed support for the tripartite talks proposal, appraising it as an outstanding proposal for peace. Besides this, progressive political parties and public organizations of each country in the world and many international organizations have expressed firm solidarity, supporting us. [applause] The political and social circles and even some officials in the United States have raised voices urging contact with us, saying that our proposal for tripartite talks is valuable.

Last year amid broad international support and encouragement, we made all possible efforts to hold tripartite talks at an early date and to alleviate the overall situation. Whenever an opportunity presented itself, we have repeatedly clarified our broad-minded and magnanimous stand toward tripartite talks, urged an early holding of the talks, and made all possible efforts to meet together and exchange opinions if possible.

Last October at the 39th UN General Assembly, we expressed our willingness to discuss at tripartite talks even the so-called policy of confidence building put forward by U.S. President Reagan. Thus, we clarly expressed once again the earnest desire and sincere attitude of the Government of our Republic to resolve the issue of peace on the Korean peninsula.

Through our just peaceful proposal and sincere efforts for its realization, we have once again clearly shown the peace-loving stand of the Government of the Republic at home and abroad and have won firm support from world's fair public opinion. Thus, we have made efforts to create a new atmosphere of alleviation in the sharp confrontation between the North and the South.

Last autumn's realization of the compatriotic relief step of our Republic for the South Korean flood victims for the first time in the history of the 40-year-long national division was a brilliant embodiment of the unanimous will of our people desirous of national reconciliation and peaceful reunification.

It was also an outstanding manifestation of the warm compatriotic love of the people in the northern half toward brothers in the South. [applause]

This exciting event, which seized the attention of world's people, has created a new turning point in opening the closed door of barrier and linking again the severed national ties between the North and the South. Thus, it has opened a new phase of North-South dialogue.

This has not only inspired anew in the hearts of all Korean people the consciousness of the same race and the warm feeling of the blood of brothers, that the North and the South annot live divided in two and are one nation which should share the same destiny, but has also strongly aroused great hope for the country's peace and its peaceful reunification.

Finally, Red Cross talks were resumed and economic talks were held for the first time between the North and the South amid the great expectations and burning desire of the entire nation.

This encouraging situation which developed in our country last year is a brilliant result of the outstanding and tested leadership of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song who has always clearly elucidated the path of our nation and vigorously led all the people to the single road of reunification by scientifically discerning the prevailing situation at home and abroad, and of the WPK which has brilliantly embodied the ideology and intent of the great leader. [applause] It is also a result of the peaceloving efforts the Government of the Republic has consistently made under the party's leadership. [applause]

The optimistic phase of the developing situation, which is opened before us, is another rare opportunity provided on the difficult course of advancing toward a peaceful national reunification. The opportunity is valuable both to North and South. We should not lose this precious opportunity but should give a favorable impetus to the situation for the country's peace and peaceful national reunification.

However, our situation is showing a sign of turning back again in the direction of confrontation and the aggravation of tension. In February of this year once again, as last year, the "Team Spirit-85" war exercise rackets, unprecedented in scale, began to be kicked up in South Korea under the pretext of so-called customary practice by mobilizing some 200,000-strong troops. We repeatedly expressed concern over the fact that such a war exercise could affect hard-won North-South dialogue and also proposed the holding of talks between vice premiers to facilitate dialogue. This notwithstanding, the "Team Spirit-85" joint military exercise was defiantly pushed ahead as planned.

Dialogue and confrontaton cannot be compatible with each other. To hold dialogue, confrontation should not be promoted and a tense situation should not be aggravated. The historical experience of North-South dialogue in the past confirms that, under circumstances in which confrontation and tension are aggravated, dialogue cannot be held successfully and it cannot ultimately escape the fate of ruin.

In reality, the strained situation between North and South has become acute. In the midst of this situation, Red Cross talks, which were resumed after a long interval last year, and economic talks, which had started anew, have already been in a state of suspension for more than 2 months. In addition, a one time sign of relaxation has become dim again and the present situation has returned to the original point of confrontation with no dialogue.

The politicians of North and South should contemplate this reality in which dialogue and confrontation and relaxation and tension are continuously at odds with each other, and deduce a proper lession from it. We should no longer meaninglessly spend time, repeating the bitter past, uselessly wasting national energy and assets in the midst of confrontation and tension. If this course repeats itself, North and South will never succeed in living together in harmony and peace, or advance even a step toward the country's reunification. Under these circumstances, we cannot but hand down a divided fatherland, along with the immeasurable disaster which we ourselves have suffered for as long as 40 years, to our posterity. This will result in us committing a great irrevocable crime before the nation.

This serious reality urgently demands that the politicians of North and South who take responsibility for the destiny of the nation, break from the past correct of mutual antagonism and distrust, and unanimously turn out to the nation-saving road for breaking through national difficulties without dealy with a new resolve and courageous determination.

Comrade delegates, what should we do under the prevailing situation?

The great leader Comrade Kim II-song has taught: Dissolving the state of military confrontation between the North and the South and easing the tense situation is the most urgent and a key issue for dispelling the misunderstanding and distrust currently existing between the North and the South, for increasing the mutual understanding and trust, for providing an atmosphere of great national unity, for improving relations between the North and the South, and for achieving the peaceful reunification of the nation.

All Korean people and the world's peace-loving people are watching with great concern in what direction the situation in our country will develop. At this important juncture of determining the fate of the nation, we cannot stand idly be watching the course of developments. We deem it necessary to make more vigorous efforts to terminate the national crisis through the concerted efforts of the North and the South, to change the tense situation to a relaxed one, and to create conditions favorable to the country's peaceful reunification through dialogue.

Out of this desire, we propose cordially to the South Korean National Assembly, in the name of the SPA, that contact be made and talks be held between our SPA and the South Korean National Assembly as a measure to find an epochal way to change the situation. [applause] First of all under the present circumstances, it is incumbent upon politicians assuming the weighty responsibility of the country and nation to hold North-South parliamentary talks. In retrospect, the politicians in the North and the South have, in fact, not made even a step forward on the road towards achieving the national cause of reunifying the fatherland even after 40 years of national division.

As for our SPA and the South Korean National Assembly, the two sides have never once met with each other and discussed great significant national problems. In particular, the talks between vice premiers proposed by us have not yet materialized and, in view of the limits of the Red Cross talks and the economic talks, it is deemed to be an inevitable duty for the parliaments of both sides, in view of their inherent mission, to break away boldly from the state of isolation and to pave the way for the opening of a new phase by meeting each other.

Our suggestion to sit together now at North-South parliamentary talks has proceeded from the position of intending to settle the issue of peace in our country by the efforts of the North and the South even before holding of the tripartite talks, if possible.

We cannot sit calmly with our arms folded waiting for someone else to bring peace to us. Even if we will not be able to solve the issue of consolidating peace in Korea completely without the holding of the tripartite talks, we should not hesitate to avail ourselves to the fullest extent of every possibility if that means coming even a step closer to peace, nor should the North and the South hesitate to sit face to face.

The North and the South should join forces with each other in rescuing the nation from crisis and we should solve the internal affairs of the nation by ourselves. Although the North and the South have different ideologies and systems, they must not be conditions that prevent the North and the South from uniting under a single national ideology, nor should the other party's strength be used as a justification for meaningless confrontation between fellow countrymen. The North and the South should no longer confront each other but advance toward the common national milestone by returning to their inherent attitude as a single nation and as consanguineous people of the same flesh and blood.

Easing tension and providing prerequisites favorable to dialogue between the North and the South and favorable to the reunification of the fatherland is an important issue related to the life-and-death interests of the entire nation. This being the case, the discussion of such a problem should naturally reflect the opinions and demands of all the people sufficiently and delegates of a broad range of sectors should participate in the discussion.

Since our SPA and the South Korean National Assembly embrace politicians from all parties, the North-South parliamentary talks would assume a degree of a pan-national character. Therefore, dialogue at such talks could be conducted on the basis of democratic principles and the matters to be discussed at such talks could sufficiently reflect the opinions of allwalks of life. In this context, we are sure that North-South parliamentary talks can be called the most reasonable a drealistic form of dialogue at present to find an outlet for breaking through the national crises. [applause]

North-South parliamentary talks should, above all, discuss the question of adopting a joint declaration of nonaggression between the two sides as a practical measure to promote national rapprochement and trust between the North and South and to ease the tense situation. [applause]

Today, the deepest abyss dividing North and South is precisely mutual distrust and misunderstanding. This distrust and misunderstanding, which has grown under the situation in which North and South have, indeed, confronted each other, directly pointing guns for 40 years, has reached a serious stage rarely even seen between hostile countries, much less between fellow countrymen. We should remove this deep-rooted distrust and misunderstanding at any cost and live peacefully, harmonizing with and trusting each other as fellow countrymen.

The source of all distrust and misunderstanding existing between the North and South, in short, lies in the fact that one side thinks that the other side threatens its existence through strength and vice versa. To remove distrust and misunderstanding between the North and South, they should precisely eliminate each other's apprehensions about the threat of northward invasion and the threat of southward invasion.

As is obvious in our proposal to resolve the issue of the country's reunification on the basis of the confederal system while leaving intact the present social and political systems existing in the North, we have proclaimed more than once or twice that we have no intention of southward invasion.

Saying that both the North and South must adopt a good attitude toward dialogue, the great leader early and sagaciously taught that, if the two sides sit face to face with each other with daggers in their belts, dialogue cannot be held well and they should first take the daggers out of their bosoms to hold trustful dialogue. The great leader's teaching, containing deep intentions, most correctly and clearly delineates the root cause of North-South distrust and a way to remove it. [applause]

As taught by the great leader, if the North and South want to trust each other and to hold dialogue on this basis, it is, above all imperative to take the daggers out of their bosoms and it is also imperative for both sides to ensure that one side does not infringe upon the other.

This issue cannot be resolved merely through such working-level talks as Red Cross talks and economic talks, but only through such authoritative political talks as parliamentary talks between the two sides.

If North-South parliamentary talks agree on and announce a joint declaration of non-aggression, the North and South authorities would make it concrete and, thus, easily resolve the question of adopting a North-South declaration of nonaggression. Only then can the distrust and misunderstanding between North and South be drastically eliminated and, furthermore, can the North and South reallocate the huge military expenditures earmarked for the continuous arms race for peaceful economic construction.

The aggravation of tension and war are not beneficial to either North or South, and will only bring great misfortune to the world's people as well. Moreover, it is obvious to everyone what the destiny of our country and nation will be when the sacred father—land is turned into a theater of nuclear war by foreign forces. The road toward the aggravation of tension and war is the path to national self destruction, and relaxation and peace are the only way for the Korean nation to live and prosper together. The North and South should pool their strength to ease the tense situation, thereby saving our nation, which stands at the edge of war, from the crises of survival or ruin.

The best effort that we can make to this end is adopting a declaration of nonaggression between the North and South. We are willing to open-heartedly discuss at North-South parliamentary talks any proposals advanced by the South Korean side to promote national concord and trust and to ease the tense situation in addition to the issue of agreeing upon and announcing a joint declaration of nonaggression.

When the Armistice Agreement is replaced with a peace agreement at tripartite talks between us, the United States, and South Korea, a declaration of nonaggression between North and South can become a guarantee for a durable and perfect peace. Such being the case, the adoption of a declaration of nonaggression will be a great stride in preventing possible armed clashes and all unfortunate incidents between the North and South in advance and in laying a base for guaranteeing peace and for the country's peaceful reunification. This declaration of nonaggression will be a historic peace declaration through which the North and South pledge at home and abroad that they will never fight each other again but take the road to peace and peaceful reunification. Also, it will be an excellent demonstration of national unity in which we will elevate North-South relations on the basis of rapproachement and trust and pool mutual strength in pioneering the destiny of the nation on our own. [applause]

Today, the significance of holding North-South parliamentary talks is not limited to this alone.

The greater significance lies in the fact that, if and when North-South parliamentary talks are realized and produce good results, they will serve as a wonderful opportunity to make high-level political talks between the North and the South possible.

In his New Year address, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song stated that if the North-South dialogue proceeds successfully to meet the expectations of the people in accordance with the idea of national reunification, this will develop gradually into higher-level talks and, even more, culminate in high-level political negotiations between the North and the South.

We sincerely expect that North-South parliamentary talks will proceed successfully in such a direction as to pave the way to high-level political talks between the North and the South.

We are aware that South Korean President Chon Tu-hwan in his policy speech this year, made a proposal for talks between supreme chiefs of the North and the South, saying that whatever form North-South dialogue may take, it will be of great use for peace and harmony.

The identity of views between both sides represents a common base on which the North and the South will develop dialogue for the sake of promoting national harmony and trust and lessening tension.

When high-level political talks are held following the successful undertaking of North-South parliamentary talks and the announcement of a joint declaration of nonaggression, it will be possible to creditably settle all problems, including the adoption of the declaration of nonaggression, one of the main agenda items to be debated.

The North-South parliamentary talks will exert a encouraging influence on the Red Cross talks and the economic talks. It will also give a strong impetus to many-sided collaboration and exchange between the North and the South. The North-South parliamentary talks will not only open up a bright vista for the improvement of North-South relations, but will speed up the implementation of the tripartite talks designed to ensure permanent peace in Korea. When the North and the South reach an agreement on the issue of peace, the United States will no longer be suspicious of our proposal to hold tripartite talks nor reluctant to respond to it.

The parliamentary talks may proceed in various forms. We think it would be good to hold the talks either in the form of a joint session of both parliaments or in the form of talks between representatives of both parliaments composed of parliamentary delegations, respectively.

As far as the joint session is concerned, it sounds reasonable for members of the South Korean National Assembly to be present at a session of our SPA and our deputies to the SPA at a plenary session of the South Korean National Assembly, and they would jointly discuss and decide the issues with equal rights and duties. If the parliamentary talks are held in the form of talks between the representatives of both parliaments, it would be reasonable for both sides to form delegations of an appropriate number of members from different political parties led by the speakers or deputy speakers.

In view of the prevailing urgent situation and its significance, we hope that the proposed North-South parliamentary talks will be held at the earliest possible date. We think it reasonable to have a preliminary contact between working-level delegates appointed by the respective speakers at Panmunjom in early May in order to hold a prior consultation about the arrangement of the North-South parliamentary talks.

Our current (?progressive) proposal for discussion at the North-South parliamentary talks of urgent issues for harmony, trust, and relaxation, including issues designed to adopt a joint declaration of nonaggression at the parliamentary talks, embracing as it does a series of views and assertions that the South Korean side has recently expressed regarding dialogue and the issue of reunification on a wider scope, reflects our sincere intention to settle the internal affairs of the nation independently and peacefully and on our own.

We hope that the new South Korean National Assembly will seriously discuss our proposal for new talks advanced out of our desire to overcome the (?prevailing) difficulties, and we express our conviction that it will send us an affirmative response that accords with the demands and aspirations of the nation. [applause]

Comrade delegates, this year we should give our people, who are going to greet the 40th anniversary of national liberation, the joy of peace and the prospect for national reunification by providing a wonderful base for harmony, trust, and relaxation by exerting all our efforts and by turning the situation decisively favorable to national peace and peaceful reunification. This is a solemn demand of our people who, cherishing hopes and aspirations have, since the day the country was liberated, dreamt and longed for a peaceful and reunified fatherland while living in the midst of the pain caused by national division and uneasiness about war.

Politicians in the North and the South should acutely realize their heavy responsibility in the face of this calling of the nation and willingly come out on the patriotic road for harmony, trust, and relaxation, extricating themselves from the accursed habit of confrontation and antagonism.

The confrontation, antagonism, and jealousy between the North and the South should no longer be allowed to trample national aspirations underfoot and factional interests should not be allowed to make the national cause fail.

On the road to opening a way for national survival through joint efforts, the North and the South cannot be separated from each other, the differences in ideologies and systems should not be allowed to create a problem, ruling and opposition parties should not be distinguished from each other, there should not be discrimination between haves and have-nots, and all must participate in the pan-national patriotic cause. [applause]

Efforts for harmony, trust, and relaxation by the North and the South are the course of pioneering national fate on our own and the common sacred cause of the nation for independence. We believe that to what depth and width this cause will be realized and to what degree it will relax the situation will depend on our own initiative efforts.

In this joint effort, we should not dance to the drum-beat of others and should not be trifled by foreign forces. We have force, wisdom, magnanimity, and a clear means to resolve our nation's internal affairs through our own strength.

The 4 July North-South joint statement, consisting of the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification, and great national unity, is the solemn national oath which was promulgated to the world, outstandingly reflecting precisely all of this. It still remains as the basis of reunification today which the North and the South alike should grasp.

When both sides are faithful to this, we can easily pool strength, pioneer the road of peace, and expedite the country's independent and peaceful reunification.

The WPK and the Government of the Republic will continue in the future as in the past to firmly adhere to the principles clarified in the 4 July North-South joint statement and will concentrate all their efforts on the implementation of the sacred patriotic cause of achieving the country's peace and its independent and peaceful reunification. [applause]

I take this opportunity to fervently appeal to the people of all strata; leaders of the National Assembly, the government, and political parties; and personages of various circles of society of South Korea to unanimously join the majestic national march of brethren for peace and for the future of the nation and toward national reconciliation, trust, and peace. [applause]

We express our firm belief that our new peaceful proposal, which will bring about an epochal advance in guaranteeing the country's peace and creating the foundation for its peaceful reunification, will earn active support from all compatriots, brothers, and sisters in South Korea who are thinking of the future of the nation. [applause]

Our Korean people's will for peace and peaceful national reunification is firm and our national cause is just. All Korean people will surely put an end to the history of national disaster through their own strength and open a new chapter of history in which the North and the South alike can enjoy peace and prosperity and live together in a reunified fatherland. [applause]

Peace on the Korean peninsula is directly related to peace in Asia and the world. Our people's historic march toward peace always stands in the ranks of world's peace-loving people. We express the expectation that world's peace-loving people will continue in the future as in the past to extend active support and encouragement to our just cause. [applause]

By advancing with certainty along the road of national reconciliation, trust, and peace pointed out by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and by creating a new phase for national unity and reunification on this road, we will surely glorify this year, which will greet the 40th anniversary of the liberation of the fatherland, as a significant turning point. [applause]

Let us more vigorously advance forward to alleviate tension in our country, to remove the danger of war in our country, and, thus, to expedite the independent and peaceful reunification of the country by upholding the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and more firmly rallying around the WPK Central Committee. [applause]

SPA Letter to South Assembly

SK090955 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0938 GMT 9 Apr 85

[Text] Pyongyang April 9 (KCNA) -- Follows the full text of "Letter of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea" adopted at the fourth session of the Seventh Supreme People's Assembly which opened today:

Letter to the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea

This year is a significant year when our nation will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the August 15 liberation.

On this historic day 40 years ago, our land of three thousand ri was overflowing with joy and emotion at the liberation with no demarcation line between the North and the South.

The loud shouts of joy of the whole nation on the liberation day, however, soon died down and the heart-breaking history of national division that began that day has not come to an end yet, though 40 years have passed since then. Indeed, the 40 years following the liberation have been years of division, of confrontation and of calamaties.

How many compatriots and brethren in North and South and abroad departed this life, crying for reunification, after dedicating their whole life to it, in order to terminate the history of division running against the desire and will of our nation. Yet the barrier dividing us is rising higher with the lapse of time and the confrontation within the nation and the danger of war are growing acute on top of this suffering from division.

Out of the desire to put an end to this unhappy state of affairs, we proposed to South Korea and the United States of America early last year to have tripartite talks as a step signifying a turning point in easing tensions and guaranteeing peace. Although one year has passed since then, the three-way talks has not yet been realized but the situation is becoming more strained.

Worse still, kept in abeyance are both the Red Cross talks resumed after a long suspension and the economic negotiations which started anew with the significant event of the first delivery of relief goods from the North to the South. And the atmosphere of relaxation created once is being sploit again.

Under the situation of the constant alternation of dialogue and confrontation, relaxation and tension, we must ponder over and draw a proper lesson from it. Confrontation and war are beneficial neither to the North nor to the South. They will only exhaust for nothing the energy and wealth of the nation and bring a self-destruction to the nation in the long run.

We must not aggravate the tension in confrontation against fellow countrymen but pave the way of relaxation and peace through dialogue. Relaxation and peace is the only way for the North and the South to live and prosper together.

It is us politicians of North and South who should pave this way on which the survival and fall of the nation depend. It is high time the politicians of North and South sat together and sought an outlet for relaxation and peace, we believe.

Urged by this sense of weighty responsibility, we, in the name of the current Supreme People's Assembly, solemnly propose to your National Assembly that talks be held between the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea as a step toward a practical action for dispelling the danger of war and easing tensions created in our country.

This proposal of ours proceeds from our stand that the fellow countrymen should sit at one table and solve problems as far as possible, if it would be conducive to the relaxation of tension and peace even before the holding of tripartite talks.

The best way the two sides can take is to have parliamentary talks under the present conditions where our proposal to hold talks of vice-premier level between the authorities has not been realized and the Red Cross or economic talks can hardly settle such fundamental question as the relaxation of tension.

Such talks would be the most proper form of dialogue that would weigh every opinion of the people of broad sections of the North and South in discussing and solving the question of peace in the country related to the destiny of the nation, since our Supreme People's Assembly and its counterpart in the Republic of Korea embrace various political parties in North and South.

We are of the view that the parliamentary talks of the two sides should discuss, to begin with, the question of proclaiming a joint declaration of non-aggression to ease the tension and improve the North-South relations.

Should this important problem be solved first through the parliamentary talks, it would be of practical help for both authorities to collaborate on it and adopt a North-South declaration of non-aggression stipulating that neither side would resort to arms against the other side. We are ready to discuss whatever proposal of the South Korean side at the parliamentary talks, if it would be conducive to lessening the tension and guaranteeing peace in the country.

If the issue of non-aggression and other questions of easing tension and ensuring peace were successfully solved between the North and the South, antagonism and confrontation within the nation would be cleared away and an atmosphere of trust and unity be created, a radical turn be brought about in the whole dimension of the North-South relations and the groundwork for peace and peaceful reunification be laid. The opening of parliamentary talks would, no doubt, prove to be a new landmark in paving the way for diversified forms of dialogue between North and South and stimulate its successful progress.

If members of both parliaments sat down at one place and, with the same purpose and concerted effort, sought a way for a peaceful life of the Korean nation, there would be created excellent conditions and circumstances for arranging high-level political talks between North and South.

The parliamentary talks would have an encouraging influence on the economic negotiations and Red Cross talks and open up a bright prospect for North-South cooperation and interchange.

We believe that there is ample possibility of holding North-South parliamentary talks which would put an end to the 40-year long history of distrust and confrontation and bring harmony and peace to our nation.

Both sides already expressed in the New Year address and the policy speech their positive stands towards the North-South dialogue and their intense hope for top-level talks between the authorities. This confirms the presence of a common foundation on which the North and the South can arrange a dialogue to promote reconciliation and trust and lessen tensions.

There may be different forms of parliamentary talks. But we think it advisable either to open a joint session of both parliaments or to hold talks between parliamentary delegations.

As far as the former is concerned, it would be possible for the members of your National Assembly [NA] to attend the session of our Supreme People's Assembly and the deputies of our SPA attend the NA plenary session of your side, with equal rights and duties.

In case of talks between parliamentary delegations, it would be reasonable that both sides respectively form their delegations composed of a proper number of parliamentarians from different political parties and led by speakers or deputy speakers.

In order to hold a prior consultation for the North-South parliament talks, we consider it reasonable to have a preliminary contact at Panmunjom early in May between working-level delegates appointed by their respective speakers. Those politicians who truly love the country and concern themselves about the nation's destiny should make sincere efforts to bring reconciliation and peace in deeds, not in words, in face of the urgency of the need to ensure peace and lay a foundation for reunification.

Peace and reunification are both for our nation and they should be achieved by our people themselves. Idea and system are precious to us of the same blood. But the nation is dearer, and we must think of it first. When we consider the national commonness most important and work together, we as the same blood can live in peace, not fighting each other, and open up a broad vista of national reunification.

All of the conscientious politicians of the North and the South, keenly conscious of the heavy responsibility they have assumed for the country and the nation, should shake themselves free from the old idea of discord, distrust and confrontation and readily embark on the road of patriotism for reconciliation, trust and peace.

It is a noble cause not for the politicians only, but for the whole nation to remove the danger of war and shape a bright future of the nation, reunified and peaceful. The whole nation of North and South should by all means make concerted efforts to prevent war by alleviating the tension and live a bountiful life alike by accelerating peaceful economic construction. They should be allowed to cross the demarcation line and freely travel between North and South to share warm feelings of national harmony and kinship.

We earnestly appeal to the South Korean political parties and groupings, people of all strata, and youth and students to actively respond to our patriotic initiative oriented to the day of reunification and to keep pace with the grand nation-wide march for peace and peaceful reunification.

Our nation is favoured with the common milestone set up on the road to peace and reunification, that is the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity for the country's reunification laid down on July 4. We should march forward along the road indicated by the milestone in order to open a new chapter in the history of the whole nation for peace and reunification, thus recording this meaningful year marking the 40th anniversary of the country's liberation as the most significant year in the history of our nation.

We, out of this desire, sincerely hope that your newly-born national assembly will seriously discuss our new peace proposal promising a peaceful land free from confrontation and war and the future of reunified and independent country, and send us an affirmative reply.

[Signed] Fourth session of the Seventh Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

[Dated] April 9, 1985, Pyongyang

Delivery of Letter Reported

SK090832 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0800 GMT 9 Apr 85

[Text] A letter adopted at the fourth session of the Seventh SPA of the DPRK to the South Korean National Assembly was conveyed to the South Korean side. This afternoon, the letter to the South Korean National Assembly adopted at the morning session of the fourth meeting of the Seventh SPA of the DPRK, which was called into session today was delivered to the South Korean side.

Authorized by the SPA of the DPRK, Chairman Yang Hyong-sop sent to Chae Mun-sik, speaker of the South Korean National Assembly, the letter containing a proposal to hold North-South parliamentary talks as an epochal measure to provide a new phase for the peace and peaceful reunification of the country.

On this occasion, Chairman Yang Hyong-sop sent copies of the letter to the South Korean National Assembly; to the presidents of the DJP, and the New Korean Democratic Party, and the KNP, which hold many seats in the South Korean National Assembly; and asked Speaker Chae Mun-sik to duly convey the copies to them.

Authorized by Chairman Yang Yong-sop, two liaison officials of our side went to Panmunjom and met and correctly conveyed the letter to liaison officials of the South Korean side at 1600 [0700 GMT]

Kim Hwan Report on State Budget

SK091057 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1022 GMT 9 Apr 85

[Text] Pyongyang April 9 (KCA) -- Deputy Kim Hwan, vice-premier of the Administrator Council, made a report "On the fulfilment of the 1984 state budget and on the 1985 state budget" at the fourth session of the Seventh Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK which opened today.

The reporter said: Last year our heroic working class and the rest of the working people, under the wise leadership of our party and in ardent response to its militant calls, effected a revolutionary upswing on all fronts of socialist construction through an energetic drive in the spirit of Chollima spurred on by the "speed of the 80s" and thereby successfully fulfilled last year's national economic plan and carried out the Second Seven-Year Plan. A great upswing was brought about in production in all domains of the national economy and the economy developed at a fast tempo, with the result that the state budget for last year was fulfilled with success, he noted.

According to the report, the state budgetary revenue last year was 26,305,100,000 won, or 0.3 percent above the plan and 7.9 percent above the 1983 figure. Over the past 7 years since the start of the fulfilment of the Second Seven-Year Plan the state budgetary revenue has increased at an annual average tempo of 9.7 percent.

The state budgetary expenditure last year was 26,158,000,000 won, or 99.7 percent of the plan and 8.9 percent above the 1983 figure. The state budget last year was successfully fulfilled with an excess of revenue amounting to 147,100,000 won after fully ensuring a huge sum of funds for stepping up socialist construction, increasing the defense capabilities of the country and improving the people's living.

Last year the DPRK Government increased the expenditure of funds to the national economy 11.1 percent above the previous year to lay a solid foundation for the fulfillment of the Second Seven-Year Plan and the attainment of the ten long-range objectives of socialist economic construction and directed a greater proportion of it to capital construction for expanded reproduction.

It allotted a huge sum of funds of 1.2 times the 1983 figure to the coal, mining and power industries and much funds to the metal, engineering and chemical industries and other manufacturing industries last year.

Thanks to the care of our party, an instant rice factory, sea products processing factory and many other modern light industrial factories which are of importance in improving the people's living were built, daily necessities shops and workteams and home workteams increased in large numbers and many domestic producers cooperatives and sideline workteams were organized last year, with the result that much more quantities of various mass consumption goods of high quality were produced and supplied.

Last year the DPRK Government directed 25 percent more funds than the 1983 figure to transport. As a result, the roadbed project of the northern railway construction was fulfilled at more than 80 percent, a large proportion of construction project promoted successfully, over 200 ri long railways were electrified and the reconstruction and expansion projects of railway factories were promoted to boost the capacity of railway transport last year.

Much funds were directed to agriculture last year. The 10 million ton target of grain production was hit, the material and technical foundations of agriculture were consolidated, the food problem for the people was solved more satisfactorily and a definite prospect opened for attaining the 15 million ton target of grain production in the near future.

The DPRK Government disbursed 14.6 percent of the total expenditure of the state budget as defence spendings last year to cope with the reckless new war provocation moves of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique, thoroughly implemented our party's military line of self-reliance in defence and increased the defence capabilities of the country.

The expenditure for social and cultural measures last year increased 7.5 percent above the 1983 figure, 7 percent for education and 8.1 percent for health care. In the educational field, 30 universities and factory colleges of university level made their appearance last year.

The 11-year compulsory education is in force with success in our country which has 216 universities and 576 colleges and our education has reached a very high stage to successfully realize the intellectualization of the whole society.

Last year the state directed a huge sum of funds to the scientific researches, readjustment of towns and villages on modern lines, extensive construction of dwelling houses and satisfactory enforcement of popular measures.

Last year our party again took the popular measure of supplying all the children and students across the country with good-quality clothes, underwear, shoes and other daily necessities and foodstuffs free of charge on the occasion of April 15, the greatest national holiday.

Thanks to the popular measures taken by the party and the government for the betterment of the people's living the real income of factory and office workers has increased 1.6 fold and that of peasants 1.4 fold in the period of the fulfillment of the Second Seven-Year Plan.

Last year our Republic took the compatriotic measure of sending to the South Korean flood victims sincerity-imbued relief goods -- 50,000 sok of rice, 500,000 metres of textiles, 100,000 tons of cement and medicines. The educational aid fund and stipends the homeland sent to the Koreans in Japan till the end of last year in 94 instalments amounted to 36,305,522,033 yen in Japanese currency.

All the proud successes made in the socialist economic construction and the fulfillment of the state budget last year are a result of the wise guidance of the great leader President Kim Il-song and a brilliant fruition of the tested leadership of our party which leads the revolution and construction to victory.

The reporter said the state budget for this year was correctly compiled so as to satisfactorily ensure with finance the struggle to effect a new upswing in socialist economic construction indicated by President Kim Il-song and the party's policy on giving definite priority to extracting and power industries and railway transport, radically increasing the production of iron and steel and improving the people's living.

According to the report, the revenue and expenditure of the state budget for this year are scaled respectively at 27,383,600,000 won or 4.1 percent above last year in revenue and 4.7 percent in expenditure. The state budget for this year allots 59.8 percent of the investment in productive capital construction to the extracting and power industries, railway transport and metal industry.

Over a million kw more generating capacity will be created in the 1-2 years to come through a vigorous construction of hydro-power stations, the northern railway project be accelerated and double-track laying projects be held in the Kanri-Sinyonpo, Yangdok-Kowon and Kowon-Hamhung sections and other sections under the heavy pressure of railway transport.

The DPRK Government will increase this year investments in building-materials industry 15 percent above last year and in agriculture 11 percent and direct much funds to engineering, light and chemical industries and fisheries. This year the state will increase the expenditure for social and cultural measures 4.1 percent above last year and that for education 4.5 percent. This year the DPRK Government will disburse 14.5 percent of the total expenditure of the state budget as defence spendings.

The state budget for this year is a revolutionary budget for socialist economic construction which firmly underlies with finance the vigorous general march of our working people toward the glorious grand festival under the socialist economic construction program put forward by President Kim Il-song and the leadership of our part and an independent, popular budget which reliably guarantees our people a happy life and a brighter future.

The reporter dwelt on the tasks to successfully fulfil the 1985 state budget.

PRESIDENTIAL SPOKESMAN ON CHON'S U.S. VISIT

SK090045 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 0000 GMT 9 Apr 85

[Text] President Chon Tu-hwan and his wife will pay an official visit to the United States at the invitation of U.S. President Reagan for 5 days and 7 nights from 24 to 29 April, it was announced in Seoul and Washington this morning.

Here is Chongwadae spokesman Hwang Son-pil:

His Excellency Chon Tu-hwan and his wife will pay an official visit to Washington from 25 to 27 April at the invitation of His Excellency U.S. President Ronald Reagan. In Washington, through the summit meeting with His Excellency President Reagan — the third of this kind since (?his inauguration) — his excellency the president will consolidate the foundation for stable development of the partnership between the ROK and the United States from the long-range viewpoint; will, in the meantime, (?reaffirm) the two countries' joint efforts for peace and stability in Northeast Asia, the key to the world peace, and will, moreover, reaffirm the strengthening diplomatic and security cooperation between the two countries for laying foundations for perpetual peace and stability on the Korean peninsula.

The ROK-U.S. summit meeting will also discuss ways to expand and develop reciprocal economic relations between the two countries.

His excellency the president and his wife will leave the country on 24 April and will visit Los Angeles before and Honolulu after their visit to Washington. They are expected to return home on 29 April.

An official entourage of 18 members, including S n Pyong-hyon, deputy prime minister and economic planning minister, and Yi Won-kyong, foreign minister, will accompany his excellency the president on his upcoming official visit to the United States of America.

CHON CALLS FOR POLICE EFFORT TO ESTABLISH STABILITY

SKO90212 Seoul YONHAP in English 0203 GMT 9 Apr 85

[Text] Seoul, April 9 (YONHAP) -- President Chon Tu-hwan said Tuesday that the national police must exert every effort to establish firm, continuous social stability by curbing all behaviors that threaten the nation's security and the people' well-being.

"We must not repeat the bitter experience of only a few years ago when social stability and order were so demolished that the basic framework of our country became very precarious," Chon said. The president made the remarks at the first commencement of the National Police College in Yongin, in a southern Seoul suburb. The four-year college graduated 111 cadets in its first batch of future police leaders.

Chon noted that South Korea is now in a stage where, in accordance with ongoing momentum, plaguing society and pushing up the expectations of all walks of life higher than ever before. "We should pay particular attention to these changes not only to prevent them to function as factors contributing to the healthy development of our society," Chon said.

NO URGES 'ORDERLY DIALOGUE' BETWEEN PARTIES

SKO81258 Seoul YONHAP in English 1239 GMT 8 Apr 85

[Text] Seoul, April 8 (YONHAP) -- No Tae-u, chairman of the ruling Democratic Justice Party (DJP), said Monday that the ruling and opposition parties should avoid the "extreme confrontations" that prevailed in the past. No's comments came in a prepared speech he gave during a dinner hosted by the Kwanhun Club, a senior fraternity of Korean jounalists.

Instead, he said, "we have to engage in mature politics, by resolving political problem through orderly dialogue within the National Assembly."

No, the DJP's number-two man, said that his party would strive to solve any political issue through dialogue and persuasion. "The DJP will treat the opposition as a bona fide competitor, with magnanimity and patience," he said.

In observing the "rapid changes" taking place on the domestic political scene, Koreans seem to react with a mixture of hope and unrest, No said. "Now is the time for not only the DJP but for the New Korea Democratic Party, whose responsibility becomes heavier with an increase in house seats, to alleviate the people's suspicions and uneasiness," he said.

No urged the domestic news media to play an "enlightening role" in order to promote political maturity.

The New Korea Democratic Party (NKDP) has become the most powerful opposition party in Korea's political histroy.

In the Feb. 12 general elections, the NKDP [won] 67 seats in the 276-member Korean National Assembly. After a large group of Democratic Korea Party (DKP) members joined the NKDP in early April, the NKDP's ranks swelled to 102. The DJP has 148 lawmakers-elect in the assembly.

NO ATTRIBUTES 1980 TURMOIL TO THREE KIMS

SKO90048 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 9 Apr 85 p 1

[Text] No Tae-u, chairman of the ruling Democratic Justice Party, said yesterday that he firmly believed that political chaos such as seen after the Oct. 26, 1979, incident would not take place again in the days ahead. He said that the political turmoil five years ago might have been avoided if the "three Kims" had chosen a leader among themselves.

The DJP chairman, who was commander of the Army Capital Garrison Command four years ago, revealed, "We (military) appealed the three Kims in tears to choose one among them, since the nation was in severe confusion without a leader." "We vowed that we would kneel down before the leader to support him at the sacrifice of our lives. But, unfortunately, no leader appeared among the three," he recalled.

He was answering questions during a public debate sponsored by the Kwanhun Club, a senior journalists fraternal society, held at the Plaza Hotel over a dinner, attended by about 200 senior journalists and politicians.

Asked whether the three Kims were allowed to make a comeback as they showed "repentance of their past deeds," he said, "It is evident that they intend to take part in the Fifth Republic. We understand and believe that they will not repeat the wrong-doings of the past."

As to the knotty issue of granting an amnesty for Kim Tae-chung, he said, "Haste makes waste. The issue will be solved reasonably when legal procedures, authority of the chief executive and Kim's efforts are combined."

During the debate that lasted for two hours, the general-turned-politician expressed his frank opinions on political problems, but he avoided clear-cut answers to some delicate questions.

Asked about who would be the successor to the President Chon Tu-hwan, he only said, "Not a successor, but a presidential candidate of the DJP will be chosen in the party's 1987 national convention." "As for myself, I've never thought of becoming a candidate until now," he reiterated. Pressed to give more concrete reply about the selection of the party condidate, he said, "When the national convention comes nearer, the candidates will become visible, not artifically, but naturally." "We will take into account the lessons from the past history about the power struggle in the ruling forces in choosing our candidates," he revealed.

A panelist asked, "You have must stressed dialogues. But, you have not met Yi Mun-u yet. Do you intend to have talks with Yi and the two Kims (Kim Tae-chung and Kim Yong-sam) in the near future?" "I am the representative of a political party. What I should do first is to meet the president of the opposition party, and I expect to exchange sincere views with each other before long," he said. "I regard the two Kims are individuals. However, there is no restriction for me to have talks with any individual. So I think that I can meet them at any time, when the meeting is judged necessary," he said.

Then, he stressed that dialogues would be able to solve any kind of problems, which also include the revision of the Constitution. "However, we must keep in mind that dialogues do not always mean accepting demands of the other side," he said.

He renewed his party's position against constitutional change to adopt a direct presidential election formula. "The fundamental goal of the current Constitution is to eliminate long-term seizure of power by one man, thus realizing a peaceful transfer of power," he said.

TWO KIMS TO REFRAIN FROM ACTS CAUSING FACTIONAL STRIFE

SKO82341 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 9 Apr 85 p 1

[Text] Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung, recognizing the importance of opposition solidarity, yesterday reaffirmed that they will refrain from any activity which may promote factional strife between their rival groups.

Yi Hyop, spokesman for the Council for the Promotion of Democracy, announced that the agreement of the two Kims, co-chairmen of the council, was reached Saturday when the two met at a hotel.

In a regular weekly meeting of the council's standing steering committee, Yi said the two Kims emphasized the need to "refrain from heated competition for increasing the strength of their group."

The groups led by Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung are called the Sangdo-dong and the Tonggyo-dong faction, respectively, in reference to the places where the two Kims live.

The two Kims also shared the view that it is necessary to complete the merger of the Democratic Party on a "legal" basis on early as possible, Yi said. They will convey their views to the leadership of the NKDP [New Korea Democratic Party].

FURTHER ON FRENCH PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT

Luncheon Meeting With Chon

SKO81130 Seoul YONHAP in English 1030 GMT 8 Apr 85

[Text] Seoul, April 8 (YONHAP) -- South Korean President Chon Tu-hwan Monday said he hopes that French Prime Minister Laurent Fabius' three-day visit to Korea will strengthen relations, which are already friendly, between the two countries.

In a luncheon meeting with Fabius, Chon said that the Korean people will always be grateful for France's military support during the Korean war (1950-53).

The French troops contributed greatly to saving the lives and preserving the property of Koreans during the war, Chon said.

Fabius arrived in Seoul Sunday evening for a three-day official visit at the invitation of his Korean counterpart No Sin-yong. He led an 86-member entourage, including three cabinet ministers.

Chon said that if war breaks out on the Korean peninsula, as a result of military adventurism by the North, it will directly affect the rest of the world. Tension on the peninsula is higher than at any other place in the world. Therefore, as a leading member of the free world, France has great interest in the preservation of peace and stability in this area of the world, Chon said.

Instead of taking protectionist measures in global trade, advanced countries should first try to increase the purchasing power of developing countries and then try to expand trade with them, Chon said.

Fabius responded by saying that he also hopes that the friendly relations between Seoul and France, which will reach the centennial mark later this year, will further develop.

The prime minister also said he hopes the 1988 summer Olympic Games in Seoul will be a success. France will learn much from the Seoul Olympic games, he said "based upon information we have received from Seoul, France will try to become the venue of an Olympiad in the near future, perhaps in 1992," Fabius said.

During the luncheon, Fabius handed over to Chon a personal letter from French President François Mitterrand inviting Chon to make an official visit to France at his convenience.

Also at the luncheon were, from the French side, Edith Cresson, minister for industrial development and foreign trade; Hubert Curien, minister for research and technology; Alain Calmat, minister for youth and sports; and Andre Baeyens, French ambassador to Seoul.

Further Talks

SK080225 Seoul YONHAP in English 0212 GMT 8 Apr 85

[Excerpts] Seoul, April 8 (OANA-YONHAP) -- French Prime Minister Laurent Fabius confirmed that France will not recognize the North Korean communist regime in his talks with South Korean counterpart No Sin-yong Monday.

After their exclusive talks, the prime ministers held an expanded conference involving Foreign Minister Yi Won-kyong, Sports Minister Yi Yong-ho, Trade and Industry Minister Kum Chin-ho, and Science and Technology Minister Kim Song-chin from Korea. The French participants include Foreign Trade Minister Edith Cresson, Research and Technology Minister Hubert Curien, and Youth and Sport Minister Alain Calmat.

Fabius paid a courtesy call on President Chon Tu-hwan immediately after the prime ministers' conference and attended a luncheon hosted by Chon.

Meanwhile, Trade and Industry Minister Kum Chin-ho, Energy and Resources Minister Choe Tong-kyu, and Transportation Minister Son Su-ik met with Cresson to discuss ways to expand trade between the two countries.

Science and technology minister Kim Song-Chin and Sports Minister Yi Yong-ho also met with their French counterparts Curien and Calmat, respectively, to seek cooperation in science and technology exchange and in the successful hosting of the 1988 Summer Olympics in Seoul.

Prior to the prime ministers' talks, Fabius visited the National Assembly to lay a wreath before the monument honoring the nation's unknown soldiers. In the afternoon, Fabius is scheduled to pay a courtesy call on National Assembly Speaker Chae Mun-sik and to have talks with Deputy Prime Minister and Economic Planning Minister Sin Pyonghyon. Fabius also will inspect Seoul's olympic stadium. He will be the guest of honor at a dinner hosted by No in the evening.

On Tuesday, the final day of his Korean visit, Fabius will pay tribute to the monument for French participation in the 1950-53 Korean war, located in suburban Seoul.

Fabius arrived in Seoul Sunday accompanied by an 86-member entourage.

Economic, Trade Ties Discussed

SKO81310 Seoul YONHAP in English 1255 GMT 8 Apr 85

[Text] Seoul, April 8 (YONHAP) -- South Korea and France Monday agreed to strengthen bilateral economic ties and trade.

Sin Pyong-hyon, South Korea's deputy premier and economic planning minister, and Laurent Fabius, France's prime minister, reached the agreement in Shin's office which is in the capitol building.

Fabius is now in Seoul for a three-day official visit at the invitation of his Korean counterpart, No Sin-Yong.

The prime minister requested greater access for French companies in Korean construction projects, such as nuclear power plants, liquefied natural gas terminals and the expansion of Kimpo International Airport. Fabius also said that France would like to supply Korea with enriched uranium and automatic machine parts for the Seoul-Pusan railroad networks, a source at the conference said.

In response to Fabius' requests, the Korean negotiators said that Korea has been pursuing an open-door economic policy, and that France is welcome to participate in Korean construction projects on the equal footing with other nations. The Koreans said that the European Economic Community (EEC) should ease its harsh import barriers on Korean-made merchandise. They expressed dissatisfaction with the fact that Korean umbrella exports are subject to a quota system and that Korean-made cars face discrimination in EEC countries, the source said. Korea exports only 2,000 to 3,000 U.S. dollars worth of umbrellas to Europe annually.

In response, Fabius promised that France would try to ease import regulations on Korean goods. He proposed the holding of meetings between working officials from both nations to discuss possible solutions to bilateral trade problems, such as the deficit that Korea has in its trade with France.

The French delegation to the meeting included Edith Cresson, minister for industrial development and foreign trade; Andre Baeyens, ambassador to Korea; and an adviser to French President Francois Mitterrand.

The Korean delegation included Kim Ki-hwan, secretary general, International Economic Policy Council; Yun Sok-hon, Korean ambassador to Paris; and Yun Ok-sop, assistant foreign minister for economic affairs.

Construction Projects Discussed

SKO90010 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 9 Apr 85 p 3

[Text] France has asked Korea to allow French firms to participate in such large-scale construction projects as atomic power plants, oil pipelines and high-speed rail-ways. The French requests were set forward at the economic ministers conference between the two countries, held yesterday at the Economic Planning Board (EPB). On hand at the bilateral meeting were Laurent Fabius, visiting French prime minister; Shin Byong-hyon, deputy prime minister; Edith Cresson, minister for industrial redeployment and external trade; and Kim Ki-hwan, secretary general of the International Economic Policy Council.

Informed sources said that the French delegates, in particular, specified the possibility of French firms participating in the construction of the Korea's Nos. 11 and 12 atomic power stations, which will begin in 1984. The Korean Government has already announced that the invitations to bid for the construction of the twin-type atomic units will be sent out this November. Accordingly, the final choice of foreign reactor suppliers will be made by the end of next year. Concern is now focused on "who will be the successful supplier of the atomic reactors for the power plants." The Korean side's response to the request has yet to be made available.

Among other projected mammoth construction projects of Korea are two longdistance oil pipelines, one linking Seoul and Yosu and the other connecting Ulsan and Taejon; and the Seoul-Taejon high-speed railway.

According to the sources, the French delegates also called upon the Korean side to open its capital market wider to French investors. Five French banks, already represented in Korea, reportedly hope to set up branch offices in Pusan.

In the meantime, Korean delegates strongly called on France to expand its GSP (generalized system of preference) in favor of Korea. GSP is a duty-free status granted to foreign imports. The sources also noted that Korea asked the French Government to ease import restrictions on such Korean items as textiles and electronics products. Korea last year exported \$288 million worth of goods to France and imported \$346 million worth of French products.

Somewhat soured economic links between Seoul and Paris could be mended on the occasion of French Prime Minister Laurent Fabius' three-day visit to Seoul, which began Sunday, market watchers here said cautiously.

"The bedrock question -- to what extent the 15-member French delegation will crop the substantial bilateral economic cooperation -- is still a matter of guesswork. However the visit will no doubt serve to iron out the recently strained economic relations between Korea and France," they viewed.

It is common that the economic ties among the nations are almost certainly affected by their political relationship. In this vein, France's upgrading of the North Korean trade mission in Paris to a general delegation last November naturally put a strain on the happy relations between the friendly countries.

As had been expected, the French side seeks to participate in Korea's development projects more actively, notably on the energy front. Considering that Framatome of France is supposed to supply atomic reactors for the nation's Nos. 9 and 10 atomic units, now under construction in Ulchin, Kyongsangbuk-do, they said, the visiting French delegates will be lobbying Korean officials for the possible supply of other nuclear reactors in the Nos. 11 and 12 units. Behind-the-scene efforts by foreign contractors to win the contract for the nation's Nos. 11 and 12 atomic units are now in high gear.

On the energy front at least, the cooperation between Korea and France has progressed well so far. For example, Bouygues, the French firm, has already joined Korea's LNG (liquefied natural gas) terminal construction project, now under construction in Pyongtaek, Kyonggi-do. The construction of the nation's first such terminal with four gas tanks was 55 percent complete as of the end of February this year. At one time, the construction of the Pyongtaek terminal faced a temperary stalemate resulting from the sudden bankruptcy of UIE Technigaz of France, a major supplier of engineering services and equipment for the large-scale project. The work delay, however, was immediately resolved as Bouygues, which took over the doomed Technigaz, agreed to honor the original contract without any modidifications.

In a related development, Korea and France have agreed to facilitate personnel exchanges, combined investments and technical transfers between the two countries' small and medium industries.

In a joint declaration issued at the end of the trade ministers' meeting of Korea and France, held yesterday, France promised to invite Korea's small and medium businessmen and technical specialists in order to familiarize them with the French industry.

Attending the conference were Kum Chin-ho, minister of trade and industry, and Edith Cresson, minister for industrial redeployment and external trade of France.

The Korean side strongly urged France to expand imports of Korean-made black and white TV sets at the meeting.

Technology Ministers Meet

SK090755 Seoul YONHAP in English 0748 GMT 9 Apr 85

[Text] Seoul, April 9 (YONHAP) -- South Korea and France agreed on Tuesday to hold the Korea-France science-technology ministers meeting at the earliest possible date this year to help materialize bilateral cooperation in the fields of science and technology between Seoul and Paris, a Korean Science and Technology Ministry spokesman said.

Korean Vice Science-Technology Minister Cho Kyong-mok, reached an agreement with French minister of research and technology, Hubert Curien, here on Tuesday afternoon. During the meeting, Cho and Curien agreed to conduct joint research into ultra-high technology and to cooperate in advancing into third countries through joint ventures.

They also agreed to strengthen mutual cooperation between the two countries in a variety of technological fields, such as nuclear power, energy conservation, resource exploration, space science, information and automation, and the development of small-and medium-sized firms. In the meeting, the French minister voiced a hope that his Korean counterpart, Kim Song-chin, will visit Paris sometime this year. Curien flew into Seoul Sunday, accompanying French Prime Minister Laurent Fabius, now on a three-day official tour of Korea.

Fabius Holds Press Conference

SK091026 Seoul YONHAP in English 0932 GMT 9 Apr 85

[Text] Seoul, April 9 (OANA-YONHAP) -- Visiting French Prime Minister Laurent Fabius Tuesday repeated that his government's foreign policy toward the Korean peninsula is not to take "any initiative which would not be acceptable to all." The South Korean Government has interpreted his remarks as a promise not to recognize North Korea's communist regime, as long as Seoul opposes that action.

In a press conference concluding his three-day visit to Korea, Fabius also said that Korea and France had agreed to expand their annual bilateral trade volume from the 600 million U.S. dollar-level to the 1.6 billion-dollar level. The prime minister refused to answer a question as to whether Paris' nonrecognition of Pyongyang was a provisional or permament policy. Relations between Paris and Seoul were soured by the French Government's decision last November to upgrade the status of a North Korean trade mission in Paris to a general delegation. In response, Fabius said, "although the sky was cloudy when we left Paris, we are able to leave Seoul under the blue sky."

At the same news conference, French Foreign Trade Minister Edith Cresson announced that the two nations had agreed to promote exchange programs, joint ventures and technical training in several areas, including the gas industry, small- and medium businesses. Cresson also said that three French-made airbuses will be delivered to South Korea on schedule because the "clouds" created by last November's action had been dissipated by their visit.

The two delegations also discussed various economic issues, including the expansion of a subway system in Seoul, the construction of a rapid train system between Seoul and Pusan (Korea's second largest city) and the construction of two more nuclear reactors in Korea, the trade minister said.

On the rising protectionism in European areas including France, the trade minister added that her government is opposed to the trend toward protectionism and that France has no intention of taking away Korea's most-favored-nation status.

In addition, Hubert Curien, France's research and technology minister, said that Seoul and Paris had agreed to hold meetings between specialists in the areas of energy, automation and space technology.

Curien also invited his Korean counterpart, Kim Song-chin, to visit France in June.

France's youth and sports minister, Alain Calmat, said he was very impressed with the sports facilities and the preparations for the 1988 Summer Olympics, to be held in Seoul. The two nations agreed to expand sports exchanges in several fields, including taekwondo (a Korean martial art), soccer and horse riding, he said.

SRV, KPNLF CONTINUE TO BATTLE FOR PREY CHAN

HK090954 Hong Kong AFP in English 0919 GMT 9 Apr 85

[Text] Bangkok, April 9 (AFP) -- Vietnamese gunners today shelled a Cambodian nationalist resistance force for the third day running in a bid to dislodge the guerrillas from a border encampment in western Cambodia, field reports said.

Journalists at the Thai-Cambodian border, 250 kilometers (150 miles) east of here, said the shelling was continuing this morning after guerrillas of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) yesterday regained control of about half their former resistance base at Prey Chan, formerly known as Nong Chan.

Prey Chan guerrilla commander Chea Chhut said 80 Vietnamese were killed or wounded in the counterattack, but no independent confirmation of the casualty toll was available. Chea Chhut said the guerrillas had positioned themselves in foxholes and trenches in such a way as to draw the advancing Vietnamese over minefields. The camp has been under attack by Hanoi's troops since Sunday.

KPNLF sources told journalists at the border that unspecified numbers of Vietnamese reinforcements were being moved from Phum Nimit inside Cambodia along Highway Five towards the combat zone in the Klong Ogun-Sang area, one kilometer (0.62 miles) east of Prey Chan. Vietnam was also reported to be sending fresh troops to the area around Ritthisen, another former KPNLF guerrilla base about seven kilometers (4.3 miles) north of Prey Chan along the Thai border.

KPNLF sources said Chea Chhut and Chea Chiya [name as received], commander of the Ritthisen base, met this morning to coordinate defence against the Vietnamese attacks. The combined defense force of the two camps were said to total about 1,500 guerrillas.

Journalists at the border said Vietnamese artillery was shelling from positions in Phum Yeang Dangkum and Phum Singh, less than 10 km (6.2 miles) from the camps. Meanwhile, Thai military sources said a large number of Vietnamese shells fell on Thai territory during a bombardment against elements of the pro-Chinese Khmer Rouge guerrilla faction opposite Ban Sa-Long-Kong village 12 km (7.44 miles) south of the Thai border town of Aranyaprathet. The army said it had evacuated the village's occupants beforehand, and that no civilian casualties were reported.

Khmer Rouge sources said the guerrillas today sent detachments of their 474th Division to attack Vietnamese positions in Phum Dong Seua Dai, about one kilometer (0.62 miles) inside Cambodia.

RADIO EDITORIAL HAILS FOURTH SRV WITHDRAWAL

BK040728 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 3 Apr 85

[Station editorial: "Our Good Will for Peace Is Shining More Brightly; Our People's Revolutionary Cause Is Being Firmly Consolidated"]

[Text] As part of the correct implementation of the statement of the February 1983 conference of the three Indochinese countries' party and state leaders, at the beginning of April 1985, for the fourth time part of the Vietnamese Army volunteers who have fulfilled their internationalist mission in our country will be repatriated. This event shows once again that the good will for peace pursued by the three Indochinese countries Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam -- has become more brilliant and clear.

The repatriation of the 52d Division and the 7703d, 7706th, and 9906th Brigades of the Vietnamese Volunteer Army is taking place following the great victories scored by our Revolutionary Armed Forces in close cooperation with the Vietnamese Army volunteers in smashing the last lairs of the Pol Pot-Son Sann-Sihanouk bandits along the Cambodia-Thai border. We are now gaining firm footholds on the 18 important bases we seized from the enemies. The great, all-round victories won by our Revolutionary Armed Forces in close cooperation with the Vietnamese Army volunteers during the 1984-85 dry season are of great and remarkable significance. With this heavy blow, the Cambodian reactionaries of all stripes whose capital was meager have become weaker and are heading toward total defeat.

The recent victories we scored along the Cambodian-Thai border attest to the firm strength of our revolution. Primarily, these victories clearly prove that our Revolutionary Armed Forces have matured and developed rapidly with every passing day and have become more capable in combat. Our Armed Forces and people are masterfully controlling their entire frontier. This year's withdrawal of another part of the Vietnamese Army volunteers clearly attests that our regular forces have fought more effectively and gained greater experience both in building their units and in combat. By firmly taking position along the border areas and being capable of enduring and overcoming difficult conditions there, our Armed Forces will gradually be able to replace those Vietnamese volunteer units which will be withdrawn for new assignment. Especially in the interior of our country, many provinces and districts, such as Kandal, Svay Rieng, and Prey Veng Provinces, have been able to master the defense of various important areas in their localities. Such an annual partial withdrawal of the Vietnamese Army volunteers clearly proves that the Vietnamese volunteer units may be withdrawn from any area where our people and KPRAF are able to ensure security.

Through their pure spirit of proletarian internationalism, the fraternal Vietnamese Army volunteers fought in close cooperation with our Kampuchean Revolutionary Armed Forces and withdrew after the French colonialists and U.S. imperialists were defeated. After saving our Cambodian people from the genocidal Pot Pot regime in 1979, the Vietnamese Army volunteers have wholeheartedly assisted our people in the cause of defending and rebuilding our fatherland. In the past as well as at present, the VPA has assisted the Cambodian people in their revolutionary cause with a pure and sincere spirit of proletarian internationalism.

Enraged at the defeats suffered by their lackeys, the Beijing expansionists in collusion with the U.S. imperialists and their reactionary lackeys have made every effort to undermine Cambodia-Vietnam solidarity and distort the facts about our good will for peace with regard to the withdrawal of the Vietnamese Army volunteers. They have tried desperately in their psychological propaganda against us, but they have failed to distort facts. On the contrary, our people and KPRAF and the progressive and peace—and justice—loving world public have become well aware of the benefaction and sincerity of the Vietnamese Army volunteers toward the Cambodian people and the revolutionary cause in our country. This year, another part of the Vietnamese Army volunteers is returning home on the 10th anniversary of the Indochinese peoples' victory over the U.S. imperialists. This event will help our Armed Forces and people remember even more clearly our history of struggle against common enemies and the tradition of united struggle by the three fraternal Indochinese peoples against imperialism.

Now, more than ever before, our Kampuchean Revolutionary Armed Forces and people can clearly discern our helpful friends and the enemies' maneuvers aimed at undermining us. At the same time, the annual withdrawal of the Vietnamese Army volunteers has increased our Armed Forces' and people's confidence in their self-defense power and the Cambodia-Vietnam special solidarity, which is an invincible force, and their determination to effectively expand the bond of militant solidarity, thus creating conditions for triumph in sweeping the enemies and building the country.

The harmonious cooperation in combat forged between Vietnamese Army volunteers and our KPRAF and the good ethics worthy of the revolutionary Army and genuine sons of the people displayed by the Vietnamese Army volunteers through their combat heroism and pure spirit of proletarian internationalism are a great benefaction that our entire party, Army, and people engrave deeply in their minds and will never forget.

With sad feelings and profound gratitude toward cadres and combatants of the 52d Division and the 7703d, 7706th, and 9906th Brigades to be repatriated this year, the entire KPRAF pledges to learn from the Vietnamese Army volunteers' combat heroism, pure, noble spirit of proletarian internationalism, and good ethics worthy of the revolutionary Army and sons of the people, and to turn this gratitude into concrete deeds in order to successfully implement the three revolutionary movements in regions under their responsibility and, especially, into great zeal in sweeping bandits of all stripes both along the border and in the interior of the country, thus scoring greater victories. At the same time, our Revolutionary Armed Forces pledge to enhance their revolutionary vigilance, strengthen their mastery of the border, serve as the core forces to enable the people to fight the enemies in the interior, and actively join with the local authorities and people in building strong villages and communes.

KAMPUCHEA SCORES THAILAND'S CAMBODIA POLICY

BKO40745 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 2 Apr 85

[KAMPUCHEA commentary: "Exaggeration and Slanders Cannot Cover Up the Truth"]

[Text] Recently, Bangkok leaders made a lot of noise about the provocative actions and violations of Thai territory by the Vietnamese Volunteer Army in Cambodia. Their propaganda machine clamored and made up news as though heavy military clashes are occurring on Thai territory. The Beijing authorities and a number of Western circles hastily followed suit. Some Thai Foreign Ministry officials are launching an offensive through statements to make official all the above slanders to dupe public opinion and various international organizations. Worse still, Thai Prime Minister Prem, along with the deputy commander of the Thai Army, also threatened that Thai forces might take initiative in launching offensives against the Vietnamese forces and did not rule out the possibility of Thai forces crossing into Cambodian territory [passage indistinct]. Furthermore, the Thai authorities' statements were issued at the same time as the visits of Li Xiannian and the high-ranking Chinese military delegation, the increase of military assistance to Thailand, and recently, the decision by the U.S. House Subcommittee for Asia and the Pacific to provide \$5 million to reactionary Cambodians to continue their activities against the PRK. Bangkok is opening its door wide for the reactionary Cambodians to hide themselves on Thai territory. The Thai authorities have clamored about this fabricated story with the aim of covering up their dirty activities and providing support to the Pol Pot genocidal clique which they are sustaining. [Passage indistinct] The Thai Army has carried out thousands of provocative activities against the PRK, including shelling and violating the PRK's border, airspace, and territorial waters. Whenever the Kampuchean Revolutionary Armed Forces and the Vietnamese Volunteer Army punish the Cambodian reactionaries along the Cambodian-Thai border, the Thai forces actively support these reactionaries. They want to create instability and keep the regional situation constantly tense. Therefore, the Thai leaders rejected the PRK goodwill proposals aimed at easing tension along the Lao-Thai border. The clear position of the PRK and the SRV is to respect the principle of noninterference and Thai sovereignty and territorial integrity and to constantly strive to build a peaceful border and friendship with Thailand as well as with other neighboring countries.

This just stand has been recognized and supported by public opinion the world over, including a number of circles in the ASEAN countries.

We categorically reject the dirty and cheap slanders of the Thai authorities and demand that Thailand immediately stop its hostile activities and interference in Cambodian internal affairs and respect the PRK's sovereignty and territorial integrity. We also vehemently denounce the hostile attitude of Thailand against Vietnam by allowing its henchmen to commit crimes against Vietnamese nationals who have been living in Thailand and are law-abiding citizens of the country. The attitude and activities of the Thaileaders show that they are closing their eyes to the reality which is taking shape in the PRK and opposing every peace proposal to resolve Southeast Asian issues, including the Cambodian issue. They continue to follow Beijing and Washington against the three Indochinese countries and oppose the trend toward dialogue and the goodwill of countries in the region which want to hold talks to resolve differences between the ASEAN and the Indochinese countries. These activities are detrimental to the Thai people's interests. The Thaileader's attitude certainly will not escape dire consequences.

THAI VIOLATIONS OF CAMBODIAN BORDER REPORTED

Week Ending 28 March

BK070223 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 6 Apr 85

[Text] During the week ending 28 March, Thai aircraft violated Cambodian airspace on 40 occasions by flying 2 to 3 km deep inside Cambodian territory over Hill 547 in Preah Vihear Province, Ampil in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province, and Khpop and Poipet in Battambang Province.

At sea, Thai armed vessels illegally entered Cambodian territorial waters on 75 occasions, entering as close as 13 to 52 nautical miles off Koh Kong and Koh Tang islands. Thai authorities also fired 34 barrages of artillery shells into Hills 581 and 547 in Preah Vihear Province, Yeang Dangkum in Battambang Province, and Smat Deng in Pursat Province.

During the week, the Kampuchean Revolutionary Armed Forces defending the areas along the Cambodian-Thai border duly punished the Cambodian reactionaries that stealthily crossed from Thai territory into Cambodia. We put 259 of them out of action, captured 169 others, and seized 450 assorted weapons and a large quantity of war material.

Week Ending 4 April

BK081300 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1118 GMT 8 Apr 85

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK April 8 -- Thailand's reconnaissance and fighter aircraft on 17 occasions overflew the Kampuchean-Thai-Lao border intersection, Hill 581 (Preah Vihear) and Ampil (Siem Rieap-Oddar Meanchey) in the week ended on April 4. Particularly on March 29, Thailand's A-37 aircraft made 20-mm cannon shellings of road 56 (Pursat) from two to three kilometres inside Kampuchean territory. Thai vessals penetrated 212 times into Kampuchean waters from seven to 25 miles off the Islands of Kaoh Komg and Kaoh Tang. On the ground Thailands artillery made 33 shellings of Hill 581 (Preah Vihear), Kamrieng and Yeang Dangkum (Battambang) and road 56 (Pursat).

In the same week, many groups of Khmer reactionary army remnants from Thailand infiltrated onto Kampuchean border for sabotage. But they were punished by the Kampuchean border guards and the population: 273 intruders were put out of action and 183 assorted guns and a quantity of war materials seized.

30 REBELS, 44 'MISLED' PERSONS ACCEPT CLEMENCY

BK070701 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 6 Apr 85

[Text] As heavy defeats were suffered by the enemies along the Cambodian-Thai border, 30 soldiers from Pol Pot's so-called 980th division — who had become well aware of their losing situation, which has worsened with every passing day, and who grasped our revolution's clemency policy — returned to our revolution during the first 3 months of 1985. They have been supported by our authorities, people, and armed forces, who sent them back to their families and allowed them to work for their living. In the same period, 44 misled persons from the Pol Pot and Sereika groups have turned themselves in to our authorities and people in Puok District of Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province.

SRV TROOP WITHDRAWAL SHAM RIDICULED, CRITICIZED

BK071146 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodia 2330 CMT 6 Apr 85

[Station commentary: "Vietnam is Lying Again; No One Believes It"]

[Text] During the past few days, the Hanoi authorities have loudly propagated their sham troop withdrawal scheme. They said that such and such units are being withdrawn from this and that province and are leaving through this and that road. This is an attempt to make others believe that they are not lying about withdrawing troops. This deceitful announcement on troop withdrawal, however, has caused more laughter than the previous three announcements.

Questions have been raised: Why have these troops been withdrawn from southern Cambodia, which is adjacent to Vietnam, to the northern part of Cambodia? Why have they not been withdrawn from the south directly into Vietnam? Is this not a matter of sending fresh troops from southern Vietnam, moving through Svay Rieng, Prey Veng, and Stung Treng Provinces, to Preah Vihear Province near the Thai border? There has been much ridicule. World public opinion has said that Vietnam has three times announced the withdrawal of its troops from Cambodia, but the number of Vietnamese troops in Cambodia has increased. This clearly shows that no one believes the Vietnamese announcement on troop withdrawal.

Each year, tens of thousands of Vietnamese aggressor troops in Cambodia have been either killed or wounded by the DK National Army and guerrillas, become sick, or deserted their ranks. With each passing year, the Cambodian people's struggle against the Vietnamese aggressors has become more vigorous and effective. The DK forces have launched more vigorous attacks against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors through the country. The Vietnamese enemy aggressors have become more insecure to the point that they can hardly continue to live in Cambodia. This is why the Vietnamese enemy aggressors have annually sent more troops to Cambodia to replenish their lost manpower mentioned above and to resist the struggle waged by the Cambodian people and the DK National Army and guerrillas, who have been launching vigorous attacks against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors everywhere throughout the country.

In 1984, Vietnam sent fresh troops from both northern and southern Vietnam to launch a most insane offensive along the Cambodian-Thai border. These troops have invaded Thai territory more frequently than ever before, each time involving larger number of troops and thus causing great alarm throughout the world. Despite this fact, this year the Hanoi authorities still shamelessly dare to make this deceitful announcement. This has laid bare the true, tricky, deceitful, and cunning nature of the Hanoi authorities. They always lie without considering whether it sounds plausible or not. No one believes the Vietnamese lies.

The world community has despised and condemned the Vietnamese enemy aggressors more strengly because they have continued to lie. Some journalists have even written comedies ridiculing this Vietnamese troop withdrawal maneuver. They have mocked this as a matter of sending some wounded and disabled soldiers back to Vietnam while fresh troops from Vietnam are dispatched to Cambodia.

The U.S. State Department spokesman said: Vietnam has not reduced its troops in Cambodia. On the contrary, it has increased its troops in Cambodia. We believe that Vietnam has increased its troops in Cambodia.

Some newspapers have published caricatures and articles mimicking Vietnam as having openly announced the withdrawal of their ragged and disabled soldiers and stealthily sending fresh troops from Vietnam to the Cambodian battlefields. Therefore, this Vietnamese maneuver on troop withdrawal has suffered a more shameful defeat than in the past. No one believes them, no matter how nicely the Vietnamese enemy aggressors have arranged this troop withdrawal farce. The world community holds that partial withdrawal cannot be regarded as withdrawal. It is just a deceitful scheme. No one wants such a partial withdrawal. The world community wants the total, unconditional withdrawal of Vietnamese aggressor troops from Cambodia and respect for the Cambodian people's right to self-determination in line with the UN resolutions. As long as Vietnam refuses to respect and implement the UN resolutions and carries on such abject, deceitful maneuvers, it will certainly be condemned and pressured in every way until it is compelled to stop lying and actually to withdraw its troops from Cambodia in accordance with the six UN resolutions.

CGDK REAFFIRMS DETERMINATION TO OUST SRV

BK040931 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 3 Apr 85

[Station commentary: "The CGDK and the Cambodian Tripartite Resistance Forces Are Determined To Hold Aloft the Banner of Great National Unity To Continue the Struggle Against the Vietnamese Enemy Aggressors and Race Exterminators Until They Are All Chased Out of Cambodia"]

[Text] Since the creation of our CGDK on 22 June 1982, the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors have tried every deceitful and perfidious maneuver to split and break it because they are afraid of the unity of our tripartite resistance forces and their good cooperation in dealing heavy blows to the Vietnamese. The Hanoi Vietnamese have been using every means — from military threat, attacks, intimidation, and dark activities inside the country to split and break the CGDK and the Cambodian tripartite resistance forces, to slanders against the CGDK in the international arena. However, the Hanoi Vietnamese have so far failed to achieve their criminal and dark aims. In point of fact, the CGDK and the Cambodian tripartite resistance forces have united even more closely in their struggle against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and fight the Vietnamese even more vigorously inside the country and in the international arena.

On the Cambodian battlefield, we have destroyed strategic Vietnamese communications and transport lines such as major national and provincial routes, the Phnom Penh-Battambang and Phnom Penh-Kompong Som railway lines, and the Tonle Sap river route. We have also attacked and destroyed big and small enemy positions and an increasing number of commune offices, liberated more and more villages and communes, expanded the liberated zone, and killed more and more enemy soldiers every day.

In the international arena, our CGDK has cooperated in carrying out good diplomatic activities. We have won greater sympathy and wider support and assistance from various countries the world over. It is in this situation of defeat and impasse in every field — increasing difficulties on the battlefield and greater isolation in the international arena — that during this 7th dry season the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors have busily carried out unprecedented maneuvers in an attempt to split and break the CGDK and the Cambodian tripartite resistance forces. In particular, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors have used two methods. First, they gathered many troopa and a large number of tanks and artillery batteries to launch offensives along the Cambodian—Thai border to destroy the bases of the Cambodian tripartite resistance forces and the Cambodian refugee camps and brutally massacre innocent Cambodian civilians who support and assist the CGDK in order to pressure the CGDK, the Cambodian tripartite resistance forces, and the Cambodian people and prevent them from uniting and carrying on the fight against the Vietnamese.

During their attacks along the Cambodian-Thai border this 7th dry season, the Vietnamese were prepared to pay a very high price. They paid no attention to the great loss in terms of materiel and lives of their soldiers. They were only concerned about achieving their goal of destroying and scattering the tripartite resistance forces of the CGDK at any cost because they realize that if they allow the CGDK to improve its unity, it will be a great risk for the Vietnamese aggressors. And second, along with pressure through military attacks, the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors have been carrying out deceitful diplomatic maneuvers by asking this or that faction to have talks with them, praising this faction and putting down that faction, promoting this faction and leaving aside that faction, and so on. However, these Hanoi Vietnamese divisive maneuvers during the 7th dry season have been shamefully defeated.

Faced with these barbarous attacks and deceitful and tricky maneuvers of the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors, the CGDK and the Cambodian tripartite resistance forces have united even more closely and continued to fight against the Vietnamese even more vigorously and actively. In fact, following the Vietnamese attacks along the Cambodian-Thai border, leaders of our CGDK issued successive statements affirming their stand to continue to unite in the struggle against the Vietnamese.

At a reception hosted in his honor by Chinese Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang in Beijing on 25 March, Democratic Kampuchean President Samdech Norodom Sihanouk said Cambodian nationalists are fighting for an independent, peaceful, neutral, and nonaligned Cambodia: We will never let Cambodia become a Vietnamese satellite. Cambodian nationalists will certainly not lay down their arms despite the Hanoi Vietnamese attempts to get others to do so.

CCDK Prime Minister Son Sann told a reporter of Thailand's THE NATION REVIEW on 4 March that the Cambodian tripartite nationalist forces should militarily cooperate more closely to defeat the Vietnamese. He pointed out that currently all Cambodian resistance forces are facing a most crucial moment. If they do not unite in their struggle against the Vietnamese, they will not be able to liberate Cambodia.

During an interview granted to Belgrade radio in Yugoslavia on 22 March, Democratic Kampuchean Vice President Khieu Samphan said since uniting to struggle against the common enemy -- the Vietnamese aggressors -- the three sides of CGDK have more trust and better understanding among themselves. He stressed that the main aim of our struggle is to have a political solution to the Cambodian issue based on the UN resolutions which demand that Vietnam unconditionally withdraw all its forces from Cambodia.

At a recent meeting in March of the Cambodian tripartite leaders, including Vice President Khieu Samphan, Prime Minister Son Sann, and high-ranking military officers of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's side, the participants decided that while the Vietnamese aggressors are launching barbarous and cruel attacks along the Cambodian-Thai border, the Cambodian tripartite resistance forces should increase their military activities inside Cambodia. The three sides agreed that the most important thing is to cooperate on a solid basis, particularly on the battlefield.

Therefore, no matter how poisonous, perfidious, and dark the Vietnamese maneuvers are and no matter how tricky the Vietnamese are, they certainly cannot break the CGDK. On the contrary, the CGDK's unity and unanimity have been tested and are getting stronger. The CGDK and the Cambodian tripartite resistance forces unanimously agree to consider as sacred the national interest and national duties, and to hold aloft the banner of great national unity to strengthen the CGDK's unity and unanimity to fight even more vigorously against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and race exterminators until they are chased out of Cambodia in accordance with the common declaration in Singapore in June 1982. After liberation, we will continue to unite to build and defend a prosperous and happy Cambodia so that it remains independent, neutral, and nonaligned forever.

CGDK COMMUNIQUE ON COORDINATION MEETING

BK071023 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 5 Apr 85

[3 April communique of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea]

[Text] On 3 April 1985, ministers and members of all the CGDK's coordination committee met under the chairmanship of His Excellency Son Sann, CGDK prime minister. His Excellency Khieu Sampyah, DK vice president in charge of foreign affairs, also attended this meeting. The meeting agreed to take a number of measures to strengthen coordination among the three CGDK factions. The meeting decided to establish a permanent joint body to ensure the continuity of CGDK activities within the framework of the 1982 Kuala Lumpur statement on the formation of the CGDK so as to strengthen the effectiveness and efficiency of the common struggle against the SRV aggressor forces. This struggle will continue until the statement of the International Conference on Kampuchea and the UN resolutions are implemented.

The meeting shared unanimous views on the preservation of the cohesiveness and harmony of the three component factions of the CGDK, which is the decisive factor in the final victory in the struggle for the national liberation of Cambodia. All the participants expressed satisfaction over military cooperation and the increasing activities of the resistance forces around the capitol of Phnom Penh. They noted that the Vietnamese aggressors have now been compelled to withdraw most of their forces, previously assigned to sealing off the border, to contain the pressure of our forces operating deep in the interior of the country.

The participants pointed out that the recent Hanoi announcement on the withdrawal of part of Vietnam's troops from Cambodia is nothing more than a plot to deceive international public opinion. As it did after its previous troop withdrawal announcements, the Vietnamese enemy is simply proceeding with a troop rotation. The meeting of the ministers and members of the CGDK coordination committees proceeded in an intimate atmosphere of mutual understanding.

Democratic Kampuchea, 3 April 1985

THAI TROOPS CONTINUE SHELLING 3 PAKLAI VILLAGES

BK081136 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0430 GMT 8 Apr 85

[Text] According to a regional report from Paklai District, at 1645 [0945 GMT] on 3 April, Thai troops stationed at Hong Khap fired an intense barrage of artillery shells at Peak Phou Houat and areas in the vicinity of the three villages. The shelling stopped at about 1900 [1200 GMT] on the same day, after causing some damage to the property and crops of the local inhabitants.

The shelling of Peak Phou Houat and the areas in the vicinity of the three Lao villages once again showed the hostile attitude of the ultrarightist reactionaries in the Thai ruling circles against the LPDR in general and the local inhabitants of the three villages of Ban Mai, Ban Kang, and Ban Savang in particular. It also showed their dark designs and obstinacy in continuing to serve the Beijing reactionary clique's policy of committing armed provocations against Laos. In addition to creating more tension among the Lao and Thai peoples living in the areas, the shelling was construed as an open violation of the 1979 Lao-Thai joint communiques and has caused serious, adverse effects on neighborly relations between Laos and Thailand.

The shelling was not the first by the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries against Loos. Such incidents have occurred on several occasions when Lao sovereignty has been encroached upon. Earlier, on 2 and 3 January, they fired an estimated 200 rounds of 105-mm and 155-mm artillery shells at the three villages. At the same time, they also sent an OV-10 aircraft and two helicopters to fly into Lao airspace in the Phou Kiu Nokseo area and Ban Det village. On 16, 24, 31 January, they fired some 20 rounds from assorted guns at the three villages. On 21 February, the Thai reactionaries sent a band of some 20 exiled Lao reactionaries -- their henchmen -- to sneak into (Ban Khen) village, Ban Gnai Canton, Paklai District, Sayaboury Province, to create disturbances among the local inhabitants. From 13 to 15 February, they sent an OV-10 Aircraft to fly more than 10 espionage sorties over the positions of our Armed Forces in the areas and fired two barrages from 81-mm mortars and other weapons against Phou Kiu Nokseo and the three villages.

These acts clearly show that the ultrarightist reactionaries in the Thai ruling circles always entertain thoughts of committing aggression against and swallowing up our country in accordance with the aims of the pan-Thaist doctrine. The latest shelling of the areas in the vicinity of the three villages was carried out on the instructions of the Beijing reactionary clique to undermine the revolutions in the three Indochinese countries. Our Army and people demand that they immediately cease such artillery shellings and other armed provocations against the LPDR. Otherwise, they must be held solely responsible for all serious consequences arising from their actions.

80 THAI SETTLERS REPORTEDLY ASK TO LEAVE COUNTRY

BKO60736 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 6 Apr 85 p 3

[Text] About 80 Thais who have settled in neighbouring Laos before the communist takeover have sought permission from the Laotian Interior Ministry to return to Thailand, a Thai trader in Nong Khai said yesterday. The trader who asked not to be identified said most of the Thais entered Laos for business purposes and have been there for more than a decade. He quoted most of the Thais in Laos as complaining about hardship and lack of freedom in the commune system. He said the Laotian Interior Ministry had issued a new regulation on Thursday, requiring all Thai traders who want to enter Laos for trading purposes to submit their photos and resumes at Thadua checkpoint.

MINE KILLS 2 SOLDIERS ON PATROL NEAR CAMBODIA

BK080934 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 8 Apr 85 p 12

[Text] Members of a patrol unit of the 123d Task Force stepped on a land mine, believed to have been planted by Vietnamese soldiers, while patrolling near Ban Noi Pa Rai, Aranyaprathet District, Prachin Buri, at about 1330 yesterday. The explosion killed two soldiers -- Privates Prathum Metsomkun and Luem Krotprakhon, both 22 years old -- and wounded four others -- Sergeant Suksun Athiwet, 23 years old; privates Manit Taengkwalam and Pramuan Misuk, both 22 years old; and Volunteer Thura Kamlangdi, 16 years old. The wounded are being treated at the hospital in Surasinghanat Camp in Aranyaprathet. The 123d Task Force is commanded by Colonel Prawit Wongsuwan.

Meanwhile, Major General San Siphen, commander of the Eastern Force, has placed his troops along the border on alert in light of anticipated Vietnamese attacks on Cambodian Serei units that could result in hot pursuits into Thai territory.

COMMANDER COMMENTS ON CLASHES WITH SRV FORCES

BK060601 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 6 Apr 85 p 3

[Text] Thai and Vietnamese patrol forces clash occasionally on Thai soil from Phra Palai to Chong Chom border passes in Sisaket and Surin, Second Army Region Commander Lt Gen Phisit Hemabut said yesterday.

He said the Vietnamese patrol units crossed the border to collect intelligence information and plant landmines on Thai soil.

"They clash with our patrol troops once every few days," Lt Gen Phisit said. He said that the main Vietnamese forces had been pulled back to areas about seven kms from the frontier.

Lt Gen Phisit, however, said that the deployment of Vietnamese troops still held out the possibility of new Vietnamese attacks on Thai troops.

"I am speaking from a military point of view," he said. However, he said that the Vietnamese were not expected to renew the military adventures against Thailand in the light of strong condemnation from various countries.

The Vietnamese are expected to restrict their military operations to Khmer resistance forces, according to the regional army commander.

USSR ORDERS 50,000 TONS OF RICE FOR SRV

BKO50410 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 5 Apr 85 p 21

[Excerpt] The Soviet Union has placed a second order for about 50,000 tons of Thai rice worth about 358 million baht, reportedly for shipment to Vietnam during this and next months, it was learned yesterday. The order for Al-1 super-grade broken rice was made recently through leading exporter Thai Hua (2511) Co.

Thai Hua reported the latest sale to the Commerce Ministry's Committee in Charge of Considering Broken Rice Exports at its meeting on Wednesday.

The meeting was chaired by Woraphong Phitphongsa, managing director of Capital Rice Co, on behalf of Saman Ophatwong who was absent. The committee approved the sale; the shipment will be made by members of the Rice Exporters' Association according to a regulation set by the Commerce Ministry.

The volume to be shipped by each exporter will be based on the amount of stocks in hand on April 2.

The Soviet Union's first order was made also through Thai Hua last month for the same amount and type of rice. The shipment to Vietnam is now underway and scheduled to be complete in May.

AIR FORCE COMMANDER ON PROPOSED F-16 PURCHASE

BK070351 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 7 Apr 85 p 3

[Text] The twelve F-16 General Dynamics jet fighters that the Reagan Administration plans to sell to Thailand are short of meeting the defence demand of the Royal Thai Air Force (RTAF), RTAF Commander ACM Praphan Thupatemi said yesterday. He told reporters that the RTAF needed about 16-18 F-16 jets to make a full squadron.

The RTAF will have to set up supporting unit to work with the combat squadron and the unit is capable of supporting 16-18 jets, according to ACM Praphan.

"Twelve will be too few while thirty is a bit too many. I think 16 is the appropriate figure," he said.

He said that if the United States sold only 12 F-16s, the RTAF would seek to purchase an additional number of the sophisticated aircraft when it could afford to do so in the future.

The figure of 12 aircraft was determined by the financial position on the part of the RTAF, he admitted.

The Finance Ministry, fiscal and moentary authorities as well as groups of intellectuals have expressed disagreement over the aircraft procurement as it will further increase the country's external debt burden and fiscal problems. As the fiscal position cannot afford the procurement, there is a deadlock over how to finance the purchase. The govenrment has set regulations that there cannot be external borrowings for defence spending.

However, Praphan said the RTAF initially proposed to buy 12 aircraft plus four other reserve aircraft. If and after the U.S. Congress approved the administration's plan to sell F-16s to Thailand, the United States would send a letter of acceptance (LOA) to the RTAF, he said. The LOA will specify details about the number of the aircraft, the prices of the aircraft as well as spare parts, according to the RTAF chief.

"We will then study the LOA to see whether there is anything that should be changed. After that, we will forward the matter to the government for final approval of the leal," he said.

He added that the RTAF earmarked money from its annual budget for the purchase of the aircraft. ACM Praphan added that to his knowledge, an F-16 cost U.S. \$12.5 million and the overall cost including spare parts and training would come to about U.S. \$320 million for the package deal.

FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL ON SRV PEACE PROPOSAL

OWO81343 Tokyo KYODO in English 1245 GMT 8 Apr 85

[Text] Tokyo, April 8 KYODO -- The Thai representatives to the Japan-Thailand working-level consultations in Tokyo Monday said the new five-point Vietnamese proposal for peace in Southeast Asia held nothing new and lacked flexibility. The Thai delegation was led by Asa Sarasin, permanent secretary of the Thai Foreign Ministry, while Deputy Foreign Minister Shinichiro Asao led the Japanese Foreign Ministry officials.

As a said that complete withdrawal of Vietnamese forces from Thailand and other front-line countries, as well as Kampuchea's right to self-determination, are vital to peace in Indochina. He added that there is no room for compromise on the part of Thailand. As a also told the meeting that the pro-Chinese Democratic Kampuchea movement has plenty of weapons thanks to aid from China, and that it can begin anti-Vietnamese guerrilla activities now that the rainy season has arrived.

According to Foreign Ministry sources, the Vietnamese proposal calls for expulsion of Pol Pot forces and proportionate withdrawal of Vietnamese forces, self-determination by the Kampuchean people other than Pol Pot supporters, a framework for the peaceful co-existence of Southeast Asian countries, respect for the sovereignty and territory of Southeast Asian countries by powers outside the region and international security and control.

Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister Asao said he supported the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), which has accepted the Vietnamese proposal, and he pledged his efforts to promote dialogue with the countries concerned.

NARONG ON BARTER PLAN, ROK AMMUNITION OFFER

BKO20106 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 2 Apr 85 p 3

[Text] The Agriculture Ministry will today propose to the Cabinet that Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon chair a committee on the plan to barter agricultural goods for weapons, Agriculture Minister Narong Wongwan said.

The Cabinet agreed to set up the committee after it endorsed a Defence Ministry proposal to barter agricultural products for weapons and other military goods. The Agriculture Ministry was asked to select government representatives to the team.

Mr Narong said as the barter would involve several ministries Gen Prem should chair the committee for better coordination. Agricultural products of which there are sufficient supplies for barter include rice, tapioca and sugar.

The Defence Ministry stated that South Korea had offered to sell Thailand ammunition. The government in return should propose that Seoul buy agricultural goods in exchange, Mr Narong revealed.

LE DUC THO ON NORMALIZING RELATIONS WITH U.S., CAMBODIA

HK081244 Hong Kong AFP in English 0752 GMT 8 Apr 85

[By Charles-Antoine de Nerciat]

[Text] Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, April 8 AFP) -- Hanoi hopes to normalize ties with the United States but is held back by continuing U.S. "errors" in Indochina, says the man who negotiated the American pullout from Vietnam.

Le Duc Tho also called for negotiations to end the conflict in Cambodia but said they must be based on a formula to eliminate the pro-Beijing Khmer Rouge regime toppled by Vietnamese-led troops in 1979.

Looking relaxed throughout a 2-1/2 hour interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE on Saturday, Mr Tho said that the establishment of official relations between the United States and the Hanoi communists "depends" on Washington. "We proposed normalization to the Americans on several occasions but they refused. They even did exactly the opposite," said the 76-year-old Mr Tho, still a powerful member of the Vietnamese Communist Party's Politburo. "The United States committed a large number of errors in Vietnam, which explains their defeat," he said. "It continues to make them in supporting, in collusion with China, reactionaries in Kampuchea (Cambodia)."

Beijing, along with the non-communist countries of Southeast Asia, supports the resistance guerrillas fighting to chase Vietnam's estimated 150,000-170,000 troops from Cambodia.

"We still want normalization (with the United States), and we are ready to establish relations," said Mr Tho, whose country is Moscow's main ally in Asia but virtually cut off from Western aid. He reiterated Hanoi's position that such a move would "contribute to the installation of stability" in the region.

Mr Tho drew a parallel between the current situation and the 1973 Paris talks which ended U.S. military involvement in Indochina and won a Nobel Peace Prize for him and former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. "The United States talked with Vietnam for five years. I hope that this time the discussions will not last so long."

Mr Tho said the Paris accords, which paved the wave [as received] for the communist victory over South Vietnam two years later, started with a single issue: Hanoi's demand for an end to U.S. bombings. The approach could serve as a model for negotiations on Cambodia, the Vietnamese leader said.

He said that "everybody has to sit around a conference table now to discuss the elimination of Pol Pot," the Khmer Rouge military chief whose Beijing-armed movement is the most powerful force in the resistance coalition.

A "general consensus" exists on the need to eliminate Pol Pot, whose regime is generally held responsible for the mass deaths from execution and starvation during its rule from April 1975 to January 1979, Mr Tho said. He said that the consensus included the pro-Hanoi regime in Phnom Penh as well as the United States and other capitalist countries, but it did not include the Khmer Rouge's allies [as received], China. "In effect, it's an obstacle," he said simply.

Mr Tho bristled at a suggestion that after 30 years of war, first against the French and later the Americans, Vietnam was engaged in a "colonialist" struggle of its own in Cambodia. "We have been oppressed for a hundred years," he said. "We knew all the hardships of foreign domination. There is no reason for us to become colonialists with respect to other people."

Mr Tho said that if Vietnam went into Cambodia to put an end to what he called the "genocidal" Khmer Rouge regime, the move was also aimed at assuring Vietnam's protection against its erstwhile ally, China. He rejected Chinese charges that Vietnam was invading Cambodia and accused Beijing of using its emerging economic clout to mount an "invisible" blockade by pressuring Western countries against doing business with Hanoi.

But Mr Tho had some kinds words for Mr Kissinger, saying that his U.S. negotiating partner of more than a decade ago "perfectly understands" Vietnam. Their negotiations were "very hard, very tense, but also fascinating," said Mr Tho who refused to accept his share of the Nobel Prize. "At the end of the discussions, Kissinger had to put his signature at the bottom of an accord, the likes of which the United States had never signed in their 200-year history. At the end of it all, I think Kissinger had had enough, "Mr Tho said, his eyes shining through his glasses.

PRC Behind 'Invisible" Blockade

HK081316 Hong Kong AFP in English 1223 GMT 8 Apr 85

[Tex*] Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, April 8 (AFP) -- China is using its emerging economic clout to pressure Western nations into limiting their trade with Hanoi in an "invisible" blockade, a senior Vietnamese official said here.

Le Duc Tho, a member of the Communist Party Politburo, made his remarks in an interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE Saturday in which he reflected bitterly on Hanoi's relations with its erstwhile allies in Beijing.

"While we were in the midst of war against the United States, China was already plunging a dagger in our back," he said in a reference to Beijing's move in 1972 to pave the way for a normalization of its ties with Washington.

Vietnam today considers China its enemy number one. The socialist neighbors fought a brief but bloody war in 1979 and have had frequent clashes on their common border since. "China never stops repeating that we are in the process of invading Kampuchea (Cambodia) and that we are sabotaging the friendly relations that existed between them and us. All that is not true," said the 76-year-old Mr Tho, who was the Vietnamese negotiator at the Paris peace talks that ended the U.S. military presence in Vietnam more than a decade ago.

He said that Beijing had put pressure on Western countries, which are eager to do business in the vast Chinese markets, to curb their exchanges with Vietnam in an "invisible" blockade. Western countries have virtually suspended their aid to Vietnam since Hanoi's troops moved into Cambodia to oust the pro-Beijing Khmer Rouge from Phnom Penh in January 1979.

If Mr Tho was bitter about the Sino-American rapprochement launched 13 years ago, he took a different view of the move by Hanoi's ally the Soviet Union to improve its own relations with China. "The Soviet Union and Vietnam have a common strategy. We totally approve of the discussions between the Soviet Union and China," Mr Tho said. He added that such a development was in the interests of both countries as well as world peace.

China lists Moscow's support for Vietnam's intervention in Cambodia as one of the three obstacles it sees to an improvement in ties between the communist giants that have been feuding for more than two decades. But Mr Tho rejected suggestions that tighter Sino-Soviet links would put pressure on Hanoi as did the 1972 Shanghai Communique signed by Washington and Beijing during President Richard Nixon's historic trip to China. "I believe that this danger does not exist," he said.

PRC BORDER TENSION, CAMBODIAN CONFLICT VIEWED

BK051334 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Station editor's feature: "Heighten Vigilance for National Defense"]

[Text] Dear comrades and friends, first of all, we wish to report on the northern border situation. In late March and early April, the Chinese side still maintained military pressure as they have done since the beginning of the year. Large units of Chinese troops were massed close to Vietnam's border, especially in key places across from Vi Xiyen District, Ha Tuyen Province. Chinese gunners fired thousands of artillery and mortar shells into Vietnamese territory, keeping the situation tense. Significantly, the Chinese side has sent in recent days many groups of scouts and commandos into a number of areas in Quang Ninh, Lang Son, Hoang Lien Son Provinces for reconnaissance, intelligence-gathering, and sabotage activities. Our armed forces and people in these areas promptly discovered the intruders and killed a number of them. Furthermore, Chinese aircraft on many occasions flew close to Vietnam's airspace.

It is observed that the Beijing authorities' expansionist and hegemonist policy toward Vietnam still remains totally unchanged.

Meanwhile, the ruling group in China is faced with many difficulties. In his report to the Chinese National Congress in late March, Zhao Ziyang had to admit that China is encountering many difficulties, especially in energy, raw materials, transportation means, and economic management. He admitted that in opening the door to the West, the process of economic reforms has given rise to many negative phenomena that may lead to disaster. In the political and social fields, opposition to the leadership has continued, especially within the Chinese Army. Most notable is that a mutiny on board a torpedo boat of the Chinese Navy took place on 23 March, resulting in six sailors killed and the captain wounded.

Nevertheless, the Beijing authorities are intensifying diplomatic activities aimed at restoring China's lost position and prestige in the international arena. However, as public opinion observes, the general trend of Beijing's current foreign policy is to approach imperialism ever more closely. In other words, China's foreign policy has remained unchanged since the 12th Congress of the Chinese ruling party, that is, to collude with imperialism in opposing peace and socialism. The so-called open-door policy currently pursued by China is in reality allowing western capitalists to infiltrate ever more broadly into China so that Beijing can seek more economic and financial aid and modern military technology from the capitalist countries in furtherance of its four-modernizations goals. In spite of some semantic and tactical changes, China's current foreign policy has not changed one iota. It still remains as before and is designed to tighten China's collusion with the imperialists and reactionary forces to oppose the peace and independence of nations.

The situation in Southeast Asia is clearly proof of this. The Chinese ruling cricles have been colluding with the U.S. imperialists in conducting a hostile policy toward Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia, interfering in the internal affairs of the Southeast Asian countries, and sabotaging peace and stability in the region. However, Beijing's reactionary policy has repeatedly encountered heavy setbacks. In the 1984-85 dry season, the Cambodian people dealt a lethal blow to the Pol Pot genocidal clique and other Khmer reactionary forces serving as henchmen of the Beijing expansionists and hegemonists and colluding with the U.S. imperialist and the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries in a scheme to undermine the revival of the Cambodian people and oppose the three Indochinesee countries.

About the 1984-85 dry season victory of the Cambodian Armed Forces and people, we can mention some striking features as follows: This was a resounding far-reaching, and glorious victory — the biggest victory over the past 6 years. In close coordination with Vietnamese volunteer troops, the Kampuchean Revolutionary Armed Forces successively attacked and captured all bases of the Khmer reactionaries in the Cambodian-Thai border region stretching for more than 800 km from Koh Kong to Preah Vihear. This victory clearly testifies to the maturity of the Kampuchean Revolutionary Armed Forces which are valiant, resourceful, effective, and victorious in combat and can firmly defend their fatherland's frontiers. In the recent dry season, the Kampuchean Revolutionary Armed Forces, fighting in coordination with Vietnamese Army volunteers, put out of action 12,000 enemy soldiers, including over 10,000 killed; and seized over 15,000 weapons of assorted types and other military equipment.

On the course of fighting, the joint Cambodian-Vietnamese forces launched several attacks on various very important bases of the enemy and scored remarkable achievements. During 4-7 January the joint Cambodian-Vietnamese forces attacked the enemy's joint military base at the Cambodian-Lao-Thai triborder area where the enemy's so-called defensive divisions were stationed. During 8-11 February the forces attacked the Pol Pot forces' so-called supreme command headquarters at Pursat Province's western border. In mid-February they attacked the Phnum Malai base, the so-called capital of the tripartite Khmer reactionaries. On 7 January, they attacked and occupied Ampil base, the so-called joint general staff headquarters of Son Sann's forces. On 5 March they attacked the Nong Chan base's eastern side which is called Ta Tun, the command base of Sihanouk's forces.

These victories of the KPRAF during the 1984-85 dry season have foiled the enemy's wicked schemes to undermine the Cambodian people's revival and have destroyed their hideouts along the Cambodian-Thai border, while exacerbating differences and causing more division among the enemies themselves. This year's dry season offensive once again testifies to the fact that the Cambodian situation is irreversible. The Cambodian revolution has firmly and comprehensively advanced. The KPRAF has rapidly become mature. The Cambodian national defense capability has been strengthened remarkably, while security in this country has been gradually and firmly consolidated. This has provided conditions for another partial withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteer troops from Cambodia. This withdrawal begins in early April and will be completed in early May. The withdrawn forces, totaling about 15,000 troops, include the 520 Army Corps and 7703D, and 9906th Brigades which have been performing their internationalist obligation in Svay Rieng, Prey Veng, and Kandal Provinces.

This is the fourth and largest Vietnamese partial troops withdrawal from Cambodia since 1982. In the four phases of withdrawal about one-third of the total Vietnamese volunteer troops have been pulled out from Cambodia. Our military units which have fulfilled their lofty internationalist obligation are on their way home amid heartfelt sentiments and warm departure ceremonies from the Cambodian people.

While consistently heightening their vigilance and standing ready to defend their fatherland's independence and sovereignty, the Indochinese countries are ready to enter into negotiations with the parties concerned in order to find a solution which includes the withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteer troops from Cambodia in conjunction with the elimination of the genocidal Pol Pot clique; respect for the PRK's right to self-determination, in which priority should be given to Cambodia's revival without any danger of the genocidal regime, and other appropriate and rational conditions. The Beijing expansionists-hegemonists and other reactionary forces are attempting to create fabrications, but they cannot conceal this very clear and straightforward fact.

ARMY VOLUNTEERS WELCOMED ON RETURN FROM CAMBODIA

OWO52021 Hanoi VNA in English 1623 GMT 5 Apr 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 5 -- Thousands of people in the Central Highlands Province of Gia Lai Kontum this morning from various parts of the region gathered at the Border Post 23 to welcome the homecoming officers and soldiers of Group 52 of the Vietnamese Volunteer Army, the beloved sons of the Central Highlands, who had fulfilled their internationalist duty in Kampuchea.

Flags, flowers and slogans were bright under the morning sunlight. Young Pioneers in festive dresses and with miniature flags and flowers in hands sang to the drum rhythm.

At [word indistinct] the first tank of Group 52 reached the common border of Bo Keo District (Ratanakiri Province) and Chu Prong District, Gia Lai Cong Tum Province, where a big meeting was held to see off and welcome home the Vietnames Army volunteers.

Present on the presidium of the meeting on the Kampuchean side were Kham Len, member of the Council of State of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, secretary of the Ratanakiri party committee and Kham Chan, deputy head of the General Political Department of the Kampuchean Defense Ministry. On the Vietnamese side were Major General Nguyen Huy Chuong, deputy commander of the 5th Military Zone; Pham Hong, chairman of the Gia Lai Cong Tum People's Committee; Major General Kpa Thin, chief of the staff of Gia Lai Cong Tum Colonel Vu Nha, military attache of the Vietnamese Embassy in Phnom Penh. Nearly 100 Vietnamese and foreign journalists were present at the meeting.

Addressing the meeting, Kham Len pointed out:

"Thanks to the great and effective assistance from the Vietnames Army volunteers, our country has quickly revived, and our revolutionary Army has gradually grown up and been strong enough to defend our fatherland. Each citizen in our country, especially in Ratanakiri, a province bordering Vietnam, has born in mind for every your great service and assistance to our people.

"Today, we, on behalf of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea and the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, have the great honour to see a part of the heroic Vietnamese nation's all-conquering Army home after fulfilling their internationalist duty... We will always stand by each other side to make the spring ever green in our respective countries".

Pham Hong, chairman of the Gia Lai Cong Tum Committee, warmly welcomed the home-coming combatants, and expressed his profound gratitude to the party, the Government and the people of Kampuchea, especially those of Rataranti, for their care and love given to Group 52 over the past years.

For his part, Major General Huynh Huu Anh, commander of Group 52, pledged to further promote the glorious tradition of the Vietnam People's Army and to strengthen the militant solidarity and alliance among the peoples and Armies of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea.

The meeting was wound up with a parade of nearly 1,000 troop-carrying trucks, tanks and artillery carriages marching past the presidium of the meeting then moving along highway No. 19 back into Vietnam amidst the hurrahs of thousands of Vietnamese and Kampucheans.

Ho Chi Minh Order Awarded

BK070731 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 7 Apr 85

[Excerpt] On the morning of 6 April, 20,000 representatives of people from all walks of life and cadres and soldiers of the armed forces attended a grand meeting held by the 5th Military Region Command and the Gia Lai-Cong Tum Provincial People's Committee to present the Ho Chi Mihn Order to cadres and soldiers of the 52d Army Corps. At the meeting, representatives of the provincial party committee, the provincial People's Committee, the Ministry of Defense, and the 5th Military Region delivered speeches welcoming home the 52d Army Corps after it had fulfilled its mission.

As entrusted by the Council of State, Comrade Lieutenant General Vu Xuan Chiem, vice minister of defense, pinned the Ho Chi Minh Order on the 52d Army Corps' determined-to-win standard amid the vibrant tunes of martial music. Comrade Major General Huynh Huu Anh, commander of the 52d Army Corps, read a speech, deeply thanking the party Central Committee, the Council of State, the Council of Ministers, the Ministry of Defense, the 5th Military region, and cadres and people from the various localities for having supported the army corps in the past. He pledged to develop the unit's traditions and fulfill all future tasks outstandingly.

5-YEAR TOURIST AGREEMENT WITH SOVIET UNION SIGNED

OWO81541 Hanoi VNA in English 1453 GMT 8 Apr 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 8 -- The Vietnam General Department of Tourism (VGDT) and the Soviet "Intourist" state organisation recently signed in Moscow a five-year agreement and a two-year contract between the two countries. The signing was made after a VGDT delegation had attended the 21st Conference of the Socialst Tourist Business Organization held in Moscow from March 12-14.

CPV DELEGATION RETURNS FROM HUNGARIAN CONGRESS

OWO51956 Hanoi VNA in English 1616 GMT 5 Apr 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 5 -- The delegation of the Communist Party of Vietnam led by Vo Chi Cong, Political Bureau member and secretary of the party Central Committee, has returned here after attending the 13th congress of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party. It was welcomed home by Nguyen Duc Tam, Political Bureau member and secretary of the party CC; Vu Quang, member of the party CC and head of its International Department; and Hungarian Ambassador to Vietnam Bela Benyei.

RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED

BK061347 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Text] The Council of Ministers on 27 March issued a decree setting up a government religious affairs committee. The decree specifies the specific functions and tasks of the religious activities of various echelons and sectors and of various religious organizations in the country and regarding Vietnam's religious relations with other countries. The decree also specifies that any locality having religous problems can have its people's committee set up a religious affairs committee. This decree supersedes Decree 586-TTG of 2 August 1955 of the prime minister.

NEW ZEALAND

NEW DEFENSE LINKS WITH INDIA, CANADA PLANNED

BK051257 Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English 25 Mar 85 p 3

[From Dai Hayward in Wellington]

[Text] New Zealand is planning new defense alliances and co-operation with India and Canada to replace joint United States and Australian military exercises and training programs cancelled because of the ANZUS row.

The Prime Minister, Mr Lange, has already talked to the Indian Government about the possibility of New Zealand military units training in India. Canada may replace Australia in the joint Australia-New Zealand union [as published] peacekeeping operations in the Sinai. The Australian Government has decided to withdraw its unit, but New Zealand is anxious to stay. At present the two countries are integrated into one unit, and New Zealand's relatively small involvement with helicopters and crews would not be practical on its own. However, New Zealand wants to retain its presence in the Sinai.

The New Zealand Government hopes Canada will take Australia's place. Some feelers have already been put out to the Canadian Cabinet on this possibility.

After the U.S. cancelled the ANZUS exercises in February, Mr Lange ordered New Zealand defense chiefs to prepare an urgent report on future defense strategy. The report now being considered by the Defense Council and Cabinet recommends that New Zealand should look towards closer military involvement with both Canada and India.

New Zealand's new High Commissioner to Canada, Mr John Wybrow, was given a special defense briefing by Mr Lange before he left to take up his post earlier this month. Mr Lange confirmed that he wanted to forge closer defense arrangements with India. "They fit in well with our military structures. They are conventionally armed forces," he said. India already helped to train military forces of many other countries, he said.

New Zealand military chiefs see no problem with New Zealand units training with Indian forces, which are armed with a great deal of Soviet equipment. New Zealand would not be seeking large-scale joint exercises, but would seek to join India's military training program.

The defense review stressed the need for New Zealand to develop stronger defense links with other countries to make up for the withdrawal of the U.S. It also underlined the need to build up New Zealand's military hardware.

The New Zealand Cabinet has been told it could cost between NZ100 million (A67 million) and NZ1000 million to maintain and strengthen New Zealand's military capability now that it has lost access to cheaper U.S. weapons and assisted training programs.

The Minister for Defense, Mr O'Flynn, said New Zealand was prepared to pay the price for buying extra equipment and setting up replacement training programs.

SIHANOUK REPORTEDLY TO ATTEND BANDUNG CONFERENCE

BK090548 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 9 Apr 85 p 3

[Text] Jakarta -- Indonesia will go ahead and invite Prince Norodom Sihanouk, president of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea despite criticism, to the 30th anniversary commemoration of the Asia-Africa conference, Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja said yesterday. The commemoration is scheduled April 22-25 in Bandung, West Java, site of the original conference.

Mokhtar told a news conference that Sihanouk is being invited because he is one of the three surviving chief delegates who attended the 1955 conference, considered the fore-runner of the non-aligned movement. The other two are Pham Van Dong, now Vietnam's premier, and Carlos Romulo, former foreign minister of the Philippines.

Pham Van Dong hinted earlier that he would not come to Bandung if Sihanouk was invited.

Mokhtar said 70 Asian and African countries have confirmed participation at the memorial gathering and 15 of the delegations will be headed by foreign ministers. He said the invitation for Sihanouk was not intended for efforts to settle the Kampuchean problem, "but if they (invitees) want to discuss that issue we are not going to stand in their way."

The 1955 Asia-Africa conference was considered to have boosted a spirit of independence among Asian and African countries. It was the first official gathering of leaders from the two continents.

At the end of the conference, a joint declaration will be announced to reflect aspirations of Asian and African leaders and it will also be the conference's contribution to the current international situation and in implementing cooperation among the developing countries.

DELEGATION TO VISIT PRC FOR DIRECT TRADE TALKS

BK090923 Jakarta International Service in English 0800 GMT 9 Apr 85

[Text] A delegation of the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, headed by its chairman, Sukamdani Gitosarjono, is to visit China at the end of this month to explore the possibility of opening direct trade with that large, populous country in the world. Mr Sukamdani told newsmen in Jakarta yesterday that [words indistinct] talks with the Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry [words indistinct] communications in the realization of direct trade between the two countries. The Indonesian delegation will consist of (?sectoral association) and a number of businessmen expected in selling their products to China.

MALAYSIA

ASEAN CALLS FOR NEGOTIATIONS ON CAMBODIA

BK090927 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay 0900 GMT 9 Apr 85

[Text] ASEAN has proposed that all parties, particularly Cambodia itself, hold indirect negotiations through a mediator. The CCDK and the Heng Samrin regime should hold talks to settle the continuing Cambodian conflict. In his capacity as chairman of the ASEAN Standing Committee, Foreign Minister Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen told newsmen in Kuala Lumpur today that he had discussed the idea with some of his ASEAN counterparts and that he had obtained their support. He will meet his Philippine counterpart, Mr Arturo Tolentino [as heard], in Manila at the end of this week.

MAHATHIR SPEECH CRITICIZES COMMONWEALTH

BK081313 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 6 Apr 85 pp 1, 2

[By Kamrul Idris]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Fri. -- Malaysia has come to the bitter realisation that it will have to fight for itself after having been betrayed by lofty sentiments and the high ideals of international friendship, Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said tonight. Declaring Malaysia's extreme disaffection with the Commonwealth, the Prime Minister called it a "creature of the past" that had once lulled the country into a minister belief of the selflessness among nations. Speaking at a dinner in honour of mitish Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher, he said:

"Malaysians are by nature sentimental and they value friendship and common history even though some episodes may not be palatable to them. But almost 28 years of independence have also taught Malaysians a great deal. The lesson that they have been forced to take to heart is that the world really cares very little for sentiments. Over and over again this lesson has been hammered into our heads." Dr Mahathir implied that the paternal concern expressed by the world powers to the less-developed countries belied an overriding priority of national self-interest.

"Even now we are being taught that sentiments, friendship, past associations and the rest have very little to do with the relationship between nations or groups of nations." He censured the decadence of the Commonwealth and its underlying hypocrisy. He said Malaysia had been let down by the bloc of states in the former British Empire and that its interest in it had almost dissipated. "The word Commonwealth implies a certain sharing of wealth between members. We took it quite literally at first. But we have since found out that the Commonwealth has nothing to do with wealth commonly owned."

He said an inverse order of importance existed between rich and poor nations, with the poor as neglected as they would be on their own. "The fact that the poor cannot pay as much has nothing whatsoever to do with the wealth available in the Commonwealth. Malaysia had not decided to cease its membership although it relegated the Commonwealth to fourth place in order of priority in its foreign relations. I am not saying this as an appeal to resuscitate the Commonwealth and its ideal. The Commonwealth as originally conceived is a creature of the past."

The Prime Minister referred to the "hitches and glitches" in Malaysia's relations with Britain and hinted that it would not attempt to extract sympathy in order to get what it wanted.

"We have the usual machinery for negotiations and Malaysia will not resurrect past associations in order to influence the results of any negotiations." Malaysia must be pragmatic, possess tenacity and singleness of purpose, he said. With these qualities it should ignore external criticism. "We live in a pragmatic and rather calculating world and Malaysians, like everyone else, must appreciate and apply pragmatism if they are to prosper or, at least, to survive. "We will not be deterred by adverse criticisms of our industrialisation programme or of our political system or of our economic policies. In the final analysis it is the hard, headed executives who make the decisions, not the self-appointed experts."

Despite the bad press, "there is no dearth of foreign entrepreneurs to invest or bankers to lend. Indeed the banks are forever asking us to borrow. There are not too many good borrowers these days. We do not want to be obliged to anyone. What we do for ourselves, including the cultivation of friends, will in the final analysis be in the interest of our nation."

Dr. Mahathir listed Malaysia's concern in its ties with London, chief among which was the trade imbalance, especially in invisibles. He appreciated Britain's support for ASEAN's position on Kampuchea and joined in a condemnation of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. He expressed support for the Palestinians and blamed the "biased view of the West" for having "made it an intractable problem."

"The West should understand that justice and fair play would do more for peace than the desire to atone for past anti-Semitism."

He cautioned against the continuing nuclear arms race and reiterated the Malaysian lobby to open up the continent of Antarctica to all nations.

PRIME MINISTER LEAVES FOR 20-DAY EUROPEAN VISIT

BKO80838 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 8 Apr 85

[Text] Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir has left for Stockholm to begin a 20-day official visit to Sweden, Austria, Finland, Norway, and Denmark. He will be embarking on his longest official trip abroad and [words indistinct] countries. He is scheduled to exchange views with leaders of these countries on a wide range of topics.

Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir will be accompanied by a high-level economic delegation with the aim of promoting trade and investment. The prime minister is also expected to review East-West relations in the hopes that the Geneva talks will be able to produce tangible results. He will be meeting Prime Minister Olof Palme of Sweden, Chancellor Dr Freed Sinowatz of Austria, Finnish Prime Minister Kalevi Sorsa, Norwegian Prime Minister Kare Willoch, and Danish Prime Minister Poul Schluter.

REPORTAGE ON MAHATHIR VISIT TO SWEDEN

For Stockholm coverage of the visit to Sweden by Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamad including his meeting with Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme, see the Sweden subsection of the Nordic Affairs section of the 9 April Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

SINGAPORE

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON THATCHER VISIT, TALKS

International Issues Discussed

BK081326 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 8 Apr 85

[Text] The British prime minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, who arrived in Singapore this morning for a 2-day official visit, has hell talks with Mr Lee Kuan Yew at the Istana [Palace]. At a news conference after the meeting, Mrs Thatcher said their talks centered on regional issues, East-West relations, and the international economic situation. Referring to a request from the Singapore Airlines for flying to Manchester, Mrs Thatcher said the discussions are now at the airlines-to-airlines level.

On Cambodia, she pointed out that Britain had been helping with relief supplies. Mrs Thatcher ruled out any role for her country in the problem other than as an UN Security Council member.

Earlier, the British leader paid a courtesy call on the acting president, Dr Yeow Ghim Seng, at the Istana. She is now attending a dinner at the Istana, given in her honor by Mr and Mrs Lee Kuan Yew. She leaves tomorrow morning for Brunei.

Thatcher on SS-20 Freeze

HK081306 Hong Kong AFP in English 1258 GMT 8 Apr 85

[By Peter Spence]

[Text] Singapore, April 8 (AFP) -- British Premier Margaret Thatcher today dismissed as "unacceptable" Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's announcement of a freeze on deployment of medium range SS-20 missiles in Europe. This would merely "freeze in an enormous superiority of Soviet weapons in the intermediate nuclear range," she told the press during a 24-hour visit here.

Such a freeze "would not be balance, which is what we seek, but enormous Soviet superiority," she said, adding that "that of course would be unacceptable."

It was Mrs Thatcher's first comment on Mr Gorbachev's announcement, which was published in the Soviet newspaper PRAVDA.

Rejecting the Soviet leader's announcement of a freeze on the deployment of SS-20 missiles in Europe, Mrs Thatcher said that before the West decided to deploy cruise and Pershing missiles the Soviet Union had deployed SS-20's across Europe over a number of years.

"We said that if she (the Soviet Union) took down these SS-20's, there would be no need to deploy any cruise or Pershings. She continued in fact to deploy them so we started the deployment of cruise and Pershing missiles," Mrs Thatcher said.

Mrs Thatcher also dismissed Mr Gorbachev's offer of a moratorium on nuclear research, saying that the Soviet Union had done a great deal of space-related research both on laser beams and electronic pulse beams. "The Soviet Union has an anti-satellite system which the West does not have," she said. "And the Soviet Union has an anti-ballistic missile system around Moscow and has had it for 20 years and has considerable experience in updating it."

On the Vietnamese occupation of Cambodia, Mrs Thatcher said "I do not see a role for Britain in terminating that dispute, other than as a member of the Security Council and supporting or introducing resolutions from time to time."

But she said one of today's tragedies was that so often the United Nations had been unable to solve such problems.

Mrs Thatcher admitted that the year-long coal miners' strike and its associated violence did "enormous harm" to Britain and "damaged Britain's trading and commercial image". "It will take us a long time to overcome that," she said. "And part of my job here is to say, look, you must not judge the overwhelming majority of our industries by what you saw in connection with the coal strike."

Earlier, Mrs Thatcher said she had had wide ranging talks with Singapore Premier Lee Kuan Yew on a wide range of issues, including regional matters, East-West relations and the international economic situation.

She said she had also come there to convey the message that Britain today was making considerable economic strides. She also said she had not discussed the British Department of Transport's refusal to grant Singapore Airlines the right to fly to Manchester.

Later, at a state banquet in her honour, Mrs Thatcher highlighted the similarities in the strong-willed economic policies of Singapore under Mr Lee and Britain and paid glowing tributes to her host.

"For those like me who put their belief in effort, enterprise, in adaptibility and in democracy, Singapore is a veritable magnet. I marvel at the pace of change and at the conference with which you undertake enormous investment. I like to think that once you learned it from Britain. And now we are re-learning it from you," she said.

Mrs Thatcher also noted the similarity in the two governments' views on world affairs and, in an apparent reference to the Soviet Union, lamented that countries which need food were being sold arms "indirectly to perpetuate their rigid unyielding system across the world." "The methods are those adopted already to subjugate Afghanistan and used by proxy by Vietnam in Cambodia.

"I do not think the communist system will change much, let alone quickly, and we have to live in the same world. But let us not only defend our freedom but help others to keep or achieve theirs," she said.

Mrs Thatcher leaves here early tomorrow for a three and a half hour stopover in Brunei, the third leg of her six-nation Asian tour.

Leaves for Brunei, Indonesia

BK090520 Singapore Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 9 Apr 85

[Text] The British prime minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, left for Brunei this morning after a 2-day official visit. Mrs Thatcher and her husband, Mr Denis Thatcher, were seen off at Changi Airport by the home affairs minister and second minister for law, Professor Jayakumar, and Mrs Jayakumar. The British leader will spend the 2 hours in Brunei having luncheon with Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah before going to Indonesia as (?fourth) destination of her 6-nation Asian tour. Earlier this morning, Mrs Thatcher paid a half-hour visit to the Kranji War Memorial, where she laid a wreath as [words indistinct] in remembrance of Commonwealth servicemen. [passage indistinct]

PROTESTERS MARCH ON LUZON MILITARY HEADQUARTERS

HK081414 Hong Kong AFP in English 1354 GMT 8 Apr 85

[Text] San Fernando, Philippines, April 8 (AFP) -- Some 3,000 protesters today denounced alleged murders and torture of civilians by soldiers fighting communist guerrillas, in a march to the regional military headquarters here. Wearing red scarves and headbands, the protesters shouted anti-government slogans and raised streamers and murals depicting torture, summary executions and other alleged violations of human rights by soldiers.

The military reacted to what was believed to be the biggest protest in the region in years by distributing to protesters and journalists a list of what it said were 81 soldiers and militiamen murdered by the rebels since 1984.

The New People's Army [NPA] guerrillas are the estimated 12,000-strong military wing of the banned Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP). Founded in central Luzon Island in 1969, the NPA has spread nationwide and is now strongest in the southern Island of Mindanao.

Guards shut the gates of Camp Olivas, the military nerve center in central Luzon, as the crowd, estimated by police to be 3,000 strong, approached. Busloads of demonstrators from all over the region had converged on a nearby town for the march. Protest leaders met regional military commander Brigadier General Jose Magno in the course of the two-hour protest outside the camp gates.

OPPOSITION LEADER WARNS AGAINST CPP STRENGTH

HKO81226 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 1 Apr 85 p 6

[Text] Opposition leader Jose Diokno has joined the chorus warning of the growing strength of the Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP] and its military arm, the New People's Army [NPA], and noted more and more people have rejected the usual channels of redress for grievances.

But in his speech recently before Financial Executives of the Philippines (FINEX), the president of the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan [New National Alliance] (BAYAN), said majority of the Filipino people still believe that "revolution is not yet timely." Diokno, saying "revolution is not immoral," added "I respect the decision of those who have gone into it (the revolution)."

He attributed the growing strength of the CPP-NPA to the "failure of the Marcos regime to offer a viable alternative form of government and its failure to offer an honest attempt to give justice." Diokno, a former senator, observed that people no longer go to the political oppositionists for solutions of their problems "because the power of the opposition has been taken away by the Marcos regime." He said "people do not go to courts to find justice because they have no money and because of the slow wheels of justice." He also said "the people do not go to the military because it is a Marcos tool."

2,000 FLEE VILLAGES IN WAKE OF NPA ATTACK

HK300816 Manila TIMES JOURNAL in English 29 Mar 85 pp 1, 6

[By Eric Gallego]

[Text] About 2,000 residents of remote villages have begun an exodus to the town of El Salvador in Misamis Oriental for fear that the rebels who massacred 20 villagers the other day would return.

This developed as the military extended the search to include Bukidnon and Iligan City after two young survivors of the massacre identified four of the rebels, two of whom were their cousins. The other two were their neighbors. In an interview with the TIMES JOURNAL, the two survivors, both 11 years old, said their cousins were the ones who hurled the grenade at the chapel where some of the victims sought refuge at height of the attack.

Brig. Gen. Madrino Munoz, Regional Unified Command chief for Western Mindanao, said he has pulled out a whole battalion from Bukidnon to help the troops of the second Scout Ranger Battalion under Lt. Col. Baylon Platon, which operates in the area. Munoz also ordered the Third Infantry Brigade commander, Col. Mariano Adalem, to supervise the military operation.

As of yesterday the number of victims confirmed dead stood at 20. About 50 others were also wounded when some 150 fully armed New People's Army [NPA] terrorists attacked a colony of religious cultists known as Tadtad in Baranggay Kalungunan, about 18 kilometers from the town proper at about 5 a.m. Wednesday.

Nineteen of the 20 victims were identified as Rogelio Cadoros, 33; Daday Jaudian, two months old; Pacita Macana, six years old; Virginia Macana, 45; Roldan Unson, 13; Cesenio Apragan, 19; Jocelvn Macana, 12; Rosalia Bahian, 35; Melodia Macana, 29; Merlinda Macana, 22; Marilyn Jaudian, 16; Severina Daug, 45; Fabiola Jaudian, 25; Susana Macana, 74; Avelino Macana, 16; Vicente Ubanan, 45; Avelino Basi-an, 38; Rosalso Macana, 54; and Inocencio Macana, 36.

The 20th victim, a male, was burned beyond recognition. The report said the rebels had also burned 19 houses.

Meanwhile, Munoz told newsmen he would confer with municipal officials on where to resettle the evacuees.

El Salvador Mayor Mariano Tan said at least 200 families from Sitios Dalayad and Tinuwaran in Barangay Kalungunan had left their homes and farms and have sought refuge at the town hall. The Kadiwa building has also been turned into a feeding center, Tan said.

The two young survivors, apparently also cult members as they were wearing an amulet, also said in an interview that they sought cover in the rice paddies when the rebels opened fire at the chapel. The two said the armed men who surrounded their colony were wearing military fatigue uniforms but their caps were the initials BHB (Bagong Hukbong Bayan).

"The people were asked to surrender by the rebels but suddenly they started shooting at us. I saw one of the armed men whom I recognize as my first cousin throw a grenade at the chapel. Many were killed including my parents," one of the survivors said.

The rebels were members of the Front 12 guerrilla unit led by Commander Bianne Laure and believed to be responsible for the raid of a government emergency hospital in Initao, Misamis Oriental last week.

The 20 dead persons were buried yesterday in a common grave at the public cemetery of El Salvador in the midst of a tense atmosphere. Only 16 corpses were placed in a simple coffin while the rest were wrapped in a buri mat on which lime had been placed.

In a related development, four NPA's were killed and 10 others were captured while two government troopers were seriously wounded in separate encounters in the Camarines provinces yesterday. In Northern Samar, two soldiers were killed and three others were wounded when some 50 NPA's attacked San Roque town.

A report reaching Camp Crame yesterday said a composite team of PC [Philippine Constabulary] police, home defense forces killed two NPA's in Camarines. One, identified as Ka Arnel, was killed in Capalunga, Camarines Sur. One Armalite rifle and a caliber 30 Springfield rifle, propaganda materials and medicines were taken from the slain rebels.

The two other dissidents were killed in Bula town, also in Camarines Sur. They were believed to be those behind the shooting of town Mayor Benjamin Canap. Taken from them were a carbine and a Thompson Submachinegun.

Two soldiers were seriously injured when they fought 15 heavily armed rebels in Capalunga town. In San Fernando, also in Camarines Sur, 10 suspected NPA men were arrested by PC soldiers. They are now being investigated in Cap Ibalon in Legazpi City. Killed last Monday in Samar were Capt, Nilo Mitra and Corporal Rufino Nillas, both assigned tothe 19th Infantry Battalion of the army's Tanglaw Brigade. Wounded were PRC. Ronilo Oson, PFC. Odilo Dapulag, and Leoncio Cisneros, an employee at the Mayor's office.

Lt. Col. Maximo Torremocha, acting provincial PC/INP [Integrated National Police] commander, said the rebels earlier commandeered adump truck owned by a construction firm, went to the town hall, and shot everyone on sight. They also ransacked a military detachment armory and took 27 firearms, including Armalites, Garand rifles a .38 revolver and a .45 caliber pistol.

OMBUDSMAN COMMENTS ON AQUINO MURDER CASE

HK081206 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 1100 GMT 8 Apr 85

[Text] On the Aquino-Galman double murder case, the Tanodbayan is not bound by the Sandiganbayan's April 19 deadline to produce its witnesses against the 26 indictees. This was stressed today by prosecution chief Tanodbayan Manuel Herrera. This report from Mars Encarnacion:

[Begin recording] Herrera said while the court [words indistinct] for a speedy trial, the right of the people to gather evidence was supposed to be respected. Fiscal Ernesto Bernabe, a member of the 5-man prosecution panel, said there should be no unreasonable delay in the prosecution of the case but there should also be no unreasonable haste.

On March 22, the Sandiganbayan gave the Constabulary's National Bureau of Investigation [NBI] and all police agencies orders to locate six witnesses considered by the Tanodbayan vital to the prosecution of the case. However, the order issued by Justice Manuel Pamaran, Augusto Amores, and Bienvenido Veracruz was [words indistinct] on what the court will do should searches fail to locate them on time. Herrera said the Sandiganbayan should just have set the deadline since the prosecution might have some more witnesses other than the six who were ordered produced. Compared with other murder cases, Herrera said, the Sandiganbayan is moving too fast in the trial of the Aquino-Galman case. In 18 hearings, the prosecution has presented 42 witnesses which Herrera said does not happen in othercases tried by the Sandiganbayan. [end recording]

Meantime, a Japanese journalist says he is willing to testify in the Aquino-Galman case in Manila. Kiyoshi Wakamiya was on board the plane that carried former Senator Benigno Aquino Jr in his return home in 1983. He said he has sent a letter to Ernesto Herrera, a member of the defunct Agrava Board, asking the panel to send a formal invitation to him to visit Manila. Wakamiya said he is ready to visit Manila between the middle of this month and early May to testify before the Sandiganbayan if the Agrava Board formally invites him.

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